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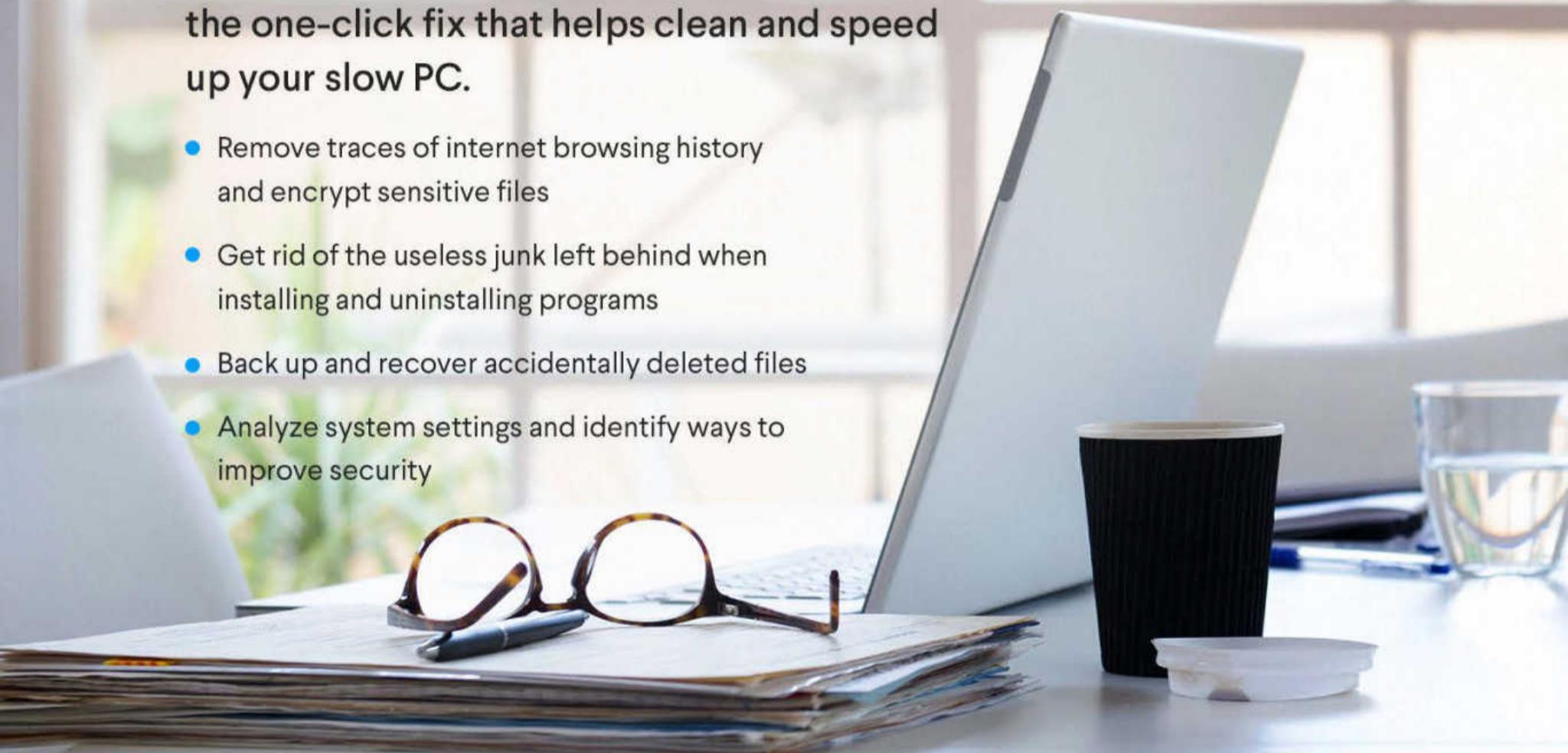
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APPLE AND ALPHABET COMPETE TO BE THE
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A large, high-contrast black and white photograph of a woman's eyes, looking directly at the viewer. The image is partially cut off on the left side.

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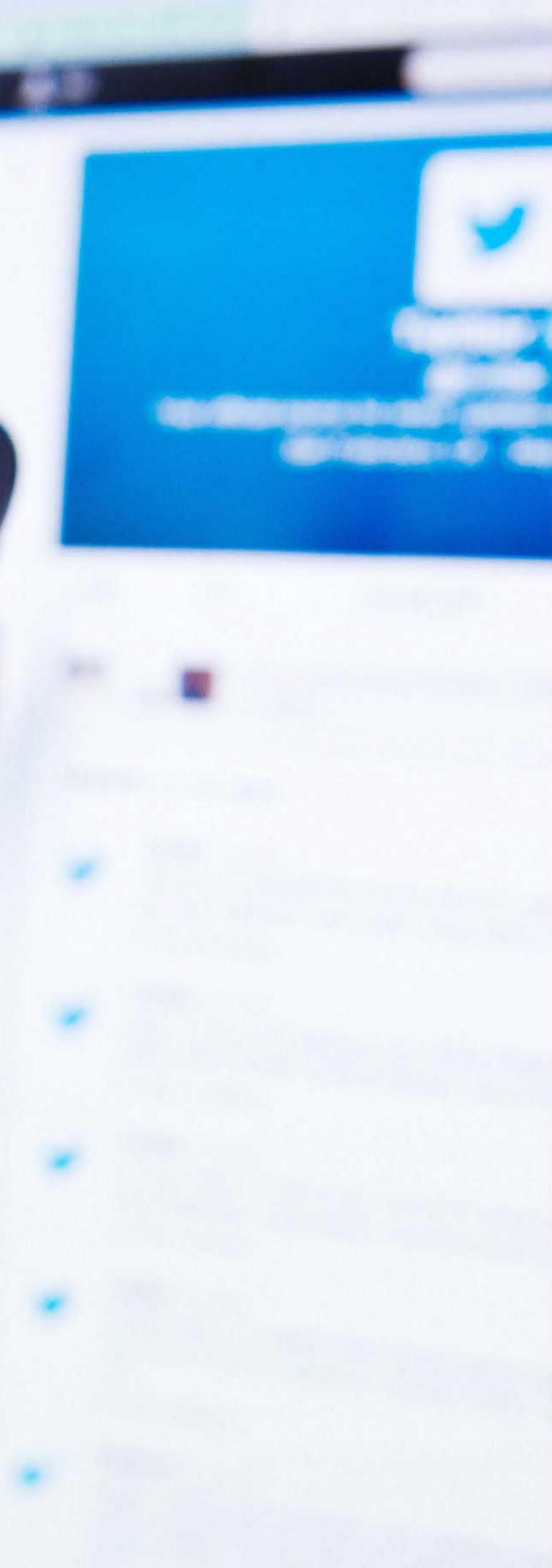
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TWITTER MOVES TO ACTIVELY SEEK OUT TERRORIST SUPPORTERS



Image: Leon Neal



Twitter is now using spam-fighting technology to seek out accounts that might be promoting terrorist activity and is examining other accounts related to those flagged for possible removal, the company announced Friday.

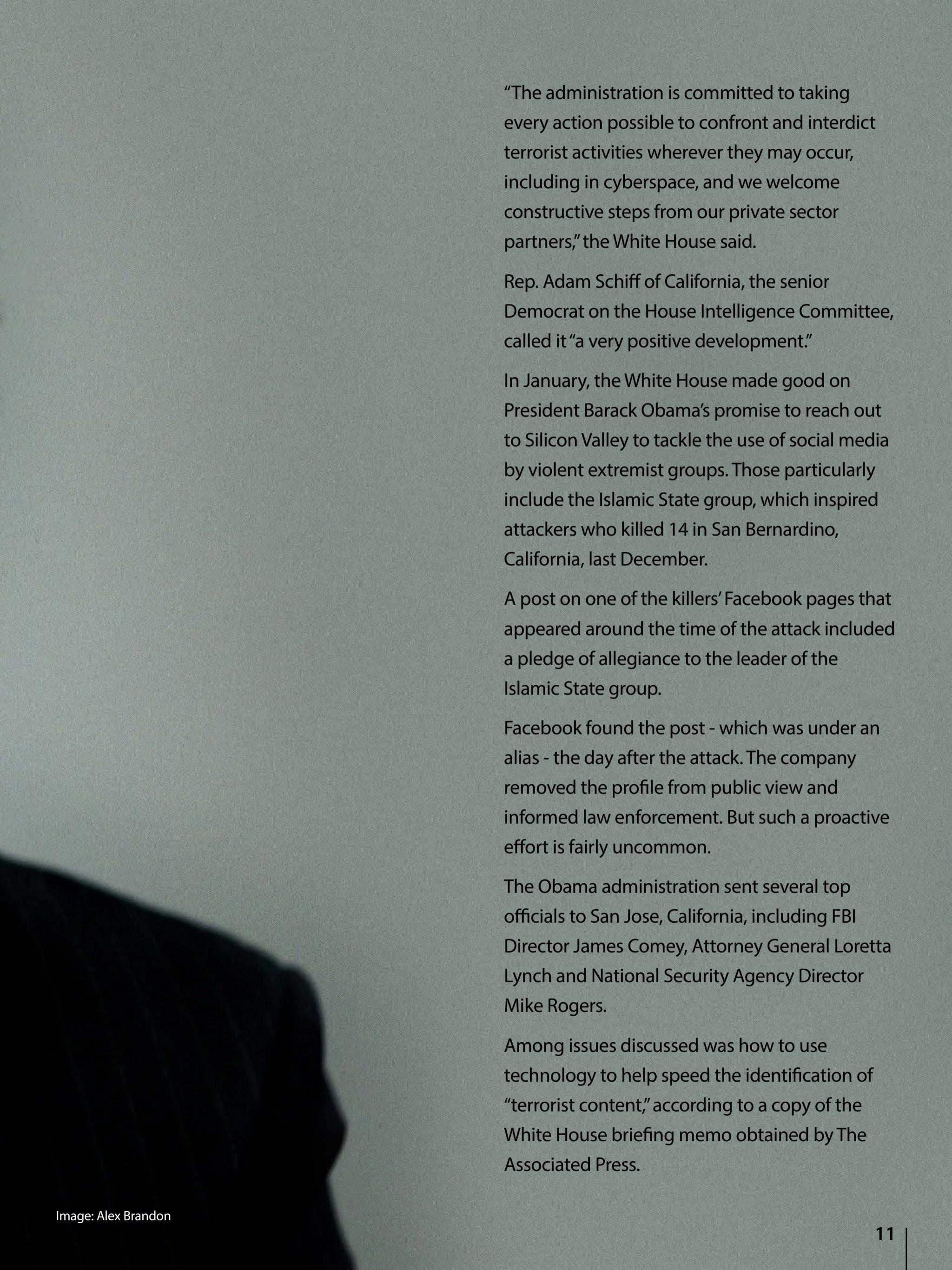
The announcement demonstrated efforts by Twitter to automatically identify tweets supporting terrorism, reflecting increased pressure placed by the U.S. government for social media companies to respond to abuse more proactively. Child pornography has previously been the only abuse that was automatically flagged for human review on social media, using a different kind of technology that sources a database of known images.

Twitter also said Friday it has suspended more than 125,000 accounts for threatening or promoting terrorist acts, mainly related to Islamic State militants, in the last eight months. Social media has increasingly become a tool for recruitment and radicalization that's used by the Islamic State group and its supporters, who by some reports have sent tens of thousands of tweets per day.

Tech companies are dedicating increasingly more resources to tracking reports of violent threats. Twitter said Friday that it has increased the size of its team reviewing reports to reduce their response time "significantly." The San Francisco-based company also changed its policy in April, adding language to make clear that "threatening or promoting terrorism" specifically counted as abusive behavior and violated its terms of use.

The White House on Friday said Twitter's announcement was "very much welcome."





"The administration is committed to taking every action possible to confront and interdict terrorist activities wherever they may occur, including in cyberspace, and we welcome constructive steps from our private sector partners," the White House said.

Rep. Adam Schiff of California, the senior Democrat on the House Intelligence Committee, called it "a very positive development."

In January, the White House made good on President Barack Obama's promise to reach out to Silicon Valley to tackle the use of social media by violent extremist groups. Those particularly include the Islamic State group, which inspired attackers who killed 14 in San Bernardino, California, last December.

A post on one of the killers' Facebook pages that appeared around the time of the attack included a pledge of allegiance to the leader of the Islamic State group.

Facebook found the post - which was under an alias - the day after the attack. The company removed the profile from public view and informed law enforcement. But such a proactive effort is fairly uncommon.

The Obama administration sent several top officials to San Jose, California, including FBI Director James Comey, Attorney General Loretta Lynch and National Security Agency Director Mike Rogers.

Among issues discussed was how to use technology to help speed the identification of "terrorist content," according to a copy of the White House briefing memo obtained by The Associated Press.



"We recognize that identifying terrorist content that violates terms of service is far more difficult than identifying images of child pornography, but is there a way to use technology to quickly identify terrorist content? For example, are there technologies used for the prevention of spam that could be useful?" the memo stated.

Since late 2015, Twitter began using "proprietary spam-fighting tools" to find accounts that might be violating their terms of service by promoting terrorism, sending them to be reviewed by a team at Twitter. That group also now looks into other accounts similar to those reported to them by other users.

Twitter said it has already had seen results, "including an increase in account suspensions and this type of activity shifting off of Twitter."

But it also noted that there is no "magic algorithm" for identifying terrorist content, which is why even humans reviewing the material are ultimately making judgment calls "based on very limited information and guidance." Free speech and local law in an area can also complicate matters.

"Like most people around the world, we are horrified by the atrocities perpetrated by extremist groups. We condemn the use of Twitter to promote terrorism," Twitter said in a statement released Friday. It said it would continue to "engage with authorities and other relevant organizations to find solutions to this critical issue and promote powerful counter-speech narratives."

Online: <https://blog.twitter.com/2016/>



LinkedIn

Image: Paul Sakuma



LINKEDIN SHARES PLUNGE ALMOST 44 PERCENT

Investors gave LinkedIn a poor job review Friday in the form of a dramatic sell-off that wiped out nearly \$11 billion in the professional networking site's market value.

A surprise forecast for slower growth this year sent LinkedIn shares into a stomach-turning plunge of almost 44 percent.

After the market closed Thursday, the online company reported better-than-expected



earnings for the last quarter but warned that revenue would fall short of what analysts had projected for 2016. It also said it was discontinuing a new online advertising system that hadn't worked out.

Several analysts noted that LinkedIn has a track record of issuing conservative forecasts and later beating them, but this time investors were shaken by the company's financial guidance. The stock closed Friday at \$108.38 after its worst slide since LinkedIn went public in 2011.

LinkedIn said it expects revenue of about \$3.6 billion to \$3.65 billion for this year, while analysts surveyed by FactSet were projecting sales of \$3.9 billion.

The company's forecast implies the once fast-growing business expects sales to increase in the low 20 percent range this year, falling into the teens in 2017, according to a report by analyst Neil Doshi of Mizuho Securities. The firm downgraded its investment rating on LinkedIn's stock to "neutral" from "buy" on Friday.

Mizuho had been expecting LinkedIn to post 30 percent sales growth for 2016 and mid-20 percent growth for 2017.

"Clearly, we were wrong," Doshi said.

LinkedIn blamed economic uncertainty in Europe and Asia, in part, for slowing growth in its core job-recruiting business. Unlike other social networks that rely primarily on advertising sales, LinkedIn gets about 60 percent of its revenue from licensing fees for software that employers and recruiters use to find job candidates. The remaining revenue comes from advertising and subscription fees.





The Mountain View, California-based company said it will continue investing to expand around the world. Analysts say LinkedIn should see increased revenue from online training courses and new software that commercial sales representatives can use to drum up business from their online contacts.

But the company also said it was overhauling its digital ad business and phasing out one ad program launched last year, because it had not performed as expected. That will cause the company to forego some revenue in the coming months, executives warned.

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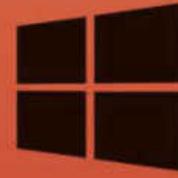
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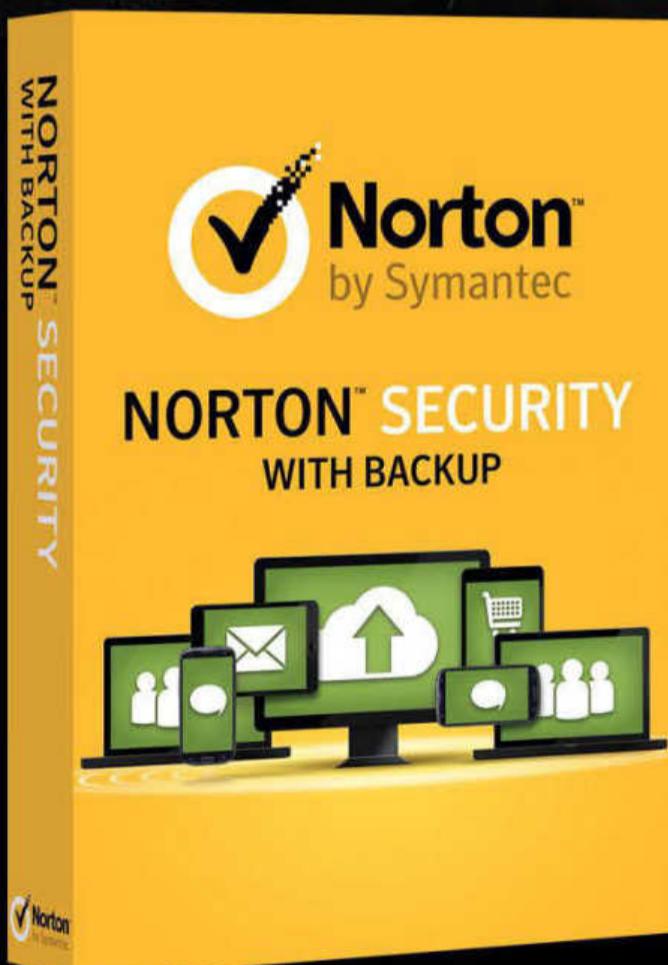
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OBAMA SEEKS CYBERSECURITY BOOST TO REPLACE 'ANCIENT' TECH





The federal government is relying on archaic computers systems to protect reams of critical data from cyberattacks, President Barack Obama warned Tuesday as he announced a new, centralized effort to boost cybersecurity.

Obama, asking Congress for \$3.1 billion for cybersecurity, said some cyber infrastructure is downright ancient, with the Social Security Administration relying on systems from the 1960s, making them vulnerable to attacks.

"That's going to have to change," Obama said, flanked by top national security advisers in the Roosevelt Room. Thanks to the explosion of the Internet and widespread access to technology, he said, "We're going to have to play some catch-up."

Obama's comments came after the release Tuesday of his 2017 budget proposal, which unveiled a new high-level federal official to coordinate cybersecurity policy across civilian agencies and to work with military and intelligence counterparts. Obama is asking Congress for a \$19-billion boost in cybersecurity funding across all government agencies - an increase of more than 35 percent from last year.

Dubbed the "Cybersecurity National Action Plan," the effort is being touted by the White House as the "capstone" of seven years of often faltering attempts to build a cohesive, broad federal cybersecurity response. Obama said some problems could be fixed relatively quickly, but added he was directing his advisers to focus also on anticipating future threats so that cybersecurity protections can adapt.

"I'm going to be holding their feet to the fire to make sure they execute on this in a timely fashion," Obama said.

Measures include more training for the private sector, emphasizing measures such as password and pin authentication to sign onto tax data and government benefits. The budget also proposes that the government reduce the use of Social Security numbers for identification. None of the suggestions appeared groundbreaking or entirely novel. In fact, many were previously suggested in both government and think tank reports and even replications of previous efforts.

"Not to be overly critical, but my initial reaction was a lot of this stuff is not new, and in fact they point to things as if to say... 'We've got to do this,' and private industry is already doing it,"



said Randy Sabet, a former National Security Agency crypto-engineer. Sabet worked on a think tank commission that provided advice to Obama's presidency on cybersecurity in 2008. "Tying all these pieces together again to me goes back to that leadership component of the administration. The window dressing is there, now what's behind the curtains."

The tasking of a single high-level official with tracking down cyber intruders in federal government networks establishes a position long in place at companies in the private sector. The lack of such a government role has been especially notable after hackers stole the personal information of 21 million Americans, whose information was housed at the Office of Personnel Management. The U.S. believes the hack was a Chinese espionage operation.

Director of National Intelligence James Clapper warned lawmakers Tuesday during his annual assessment of top dangers facing the country that U.S. information systems are vulnerable to cyberattacks by foreign powers - specifically naming Russia, China, Iran and North Korea as the most potent threats.

The chief information security officer position posted Tuesday is expected to be filled in 60 to 90 days, said Tony Scott, the U.S. chief information officer. The White House said that person will report to Scott and set and monitor performance goals for agencies. But it remains to be seen whether the person will be vested with the authorities necessary to tackle such a critical role, said Jacob Olcott, a former congressional legal adviser on cybersecurity.



The budget notes that U.S. Cyber Command is building a Cyber Mission Force of 133 teams assembled from 6,200 military, civilian and contractors from across military and defense agencies. The force will be fully operational in 2018 but has already been used for some cyber operations.

Many of the proposals such as the new cybersecurity official can be done through existing appropriations or executive authorities, the White House said.

Obama said he expects broad support for what has not been a partisan issue. He said he'd already spoken to House Speaker Paul Ryan about ways Republicans and Democrats could work together.

The Department of Homeland Security plans to expand its EINSTEIN system, which was created to detect and block cyberattacks on federal agencies. The program received a scathing review last month by the Government Accountability Office, which said the system can only detect known threats but can't deal with more complex threats such as previously unknown "zero-day exploits" or problematic system behavior that could signify an attack.

The president established through executive order Tuesday a permanent Federal Privacy Council to bring together government privacy officials to implement comprehensive privacy guidelines. Obama is also establishing a Commission on Enhancing National Cybersecurity that would involve congressional and private sector leaders who will be tasked with making recommendations in government cybersecurity for the next decade.



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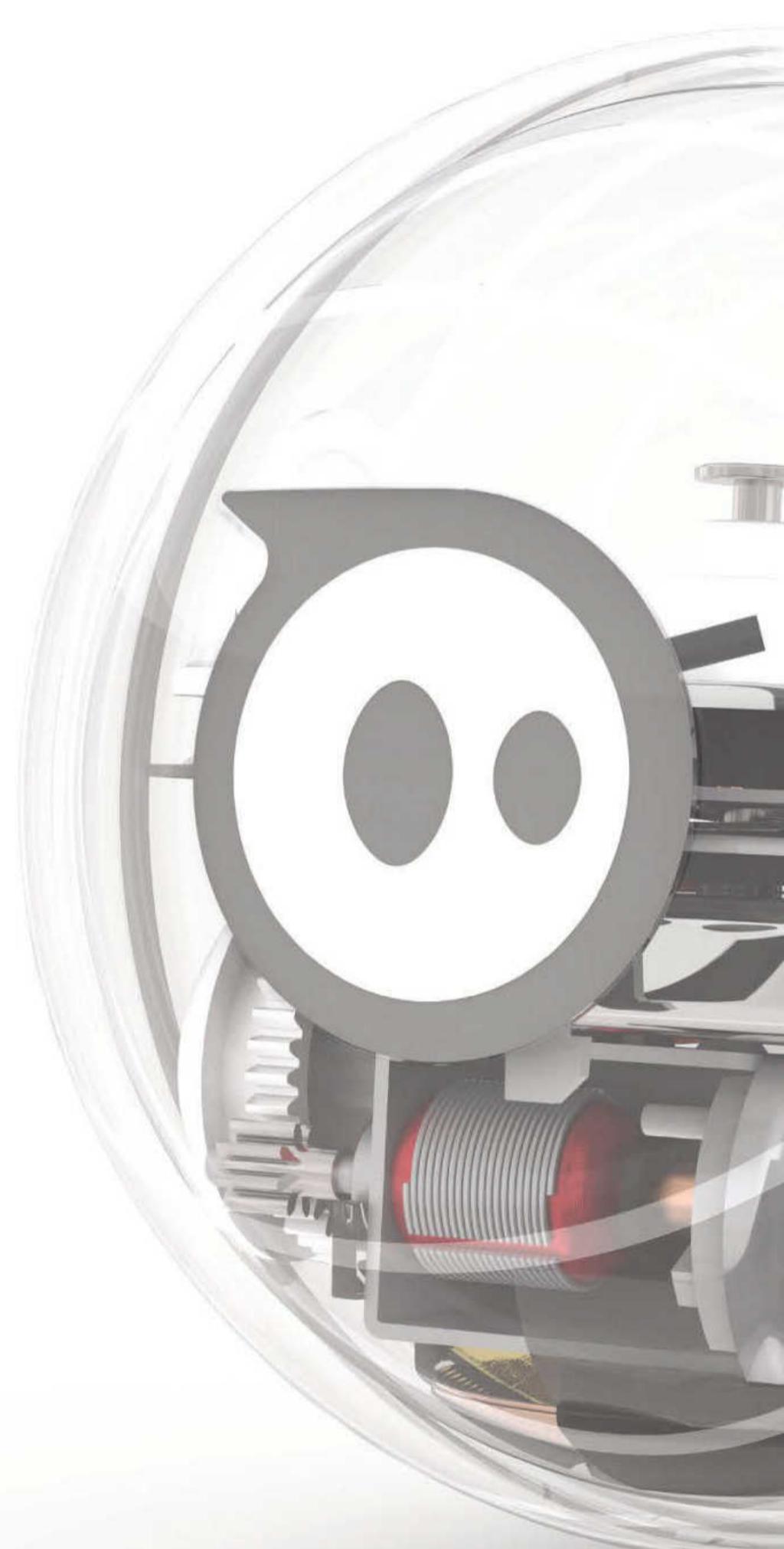


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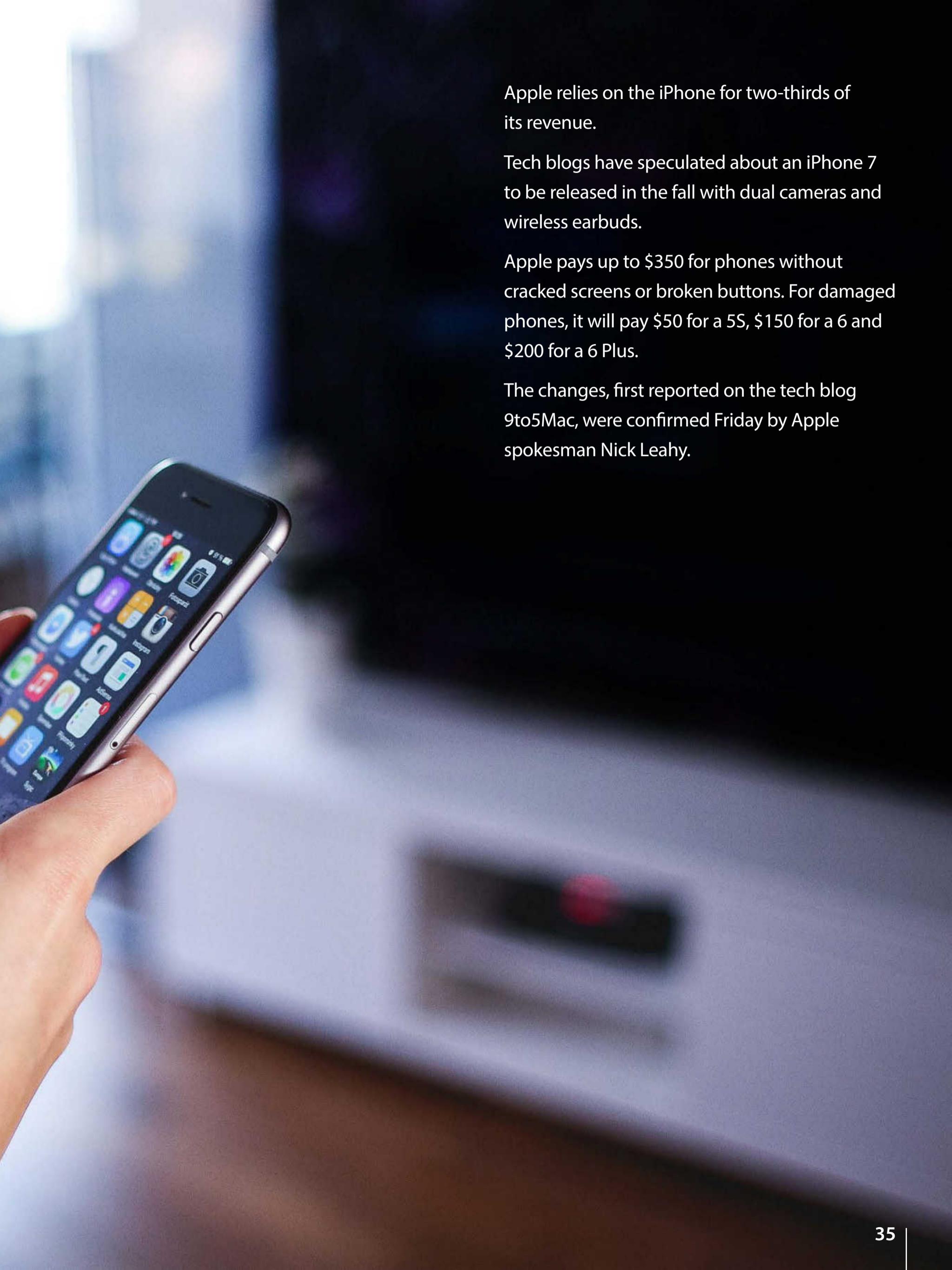
Apple for the first time is accepting banged up iPhones as a trade-in from those wanting to upgrade.

Until now, Apple offered credit to iPhone owners only if the device had an intact screen and working buttons. Apple hopes that with more leeway, applicable only to iPhone 5 and later models, more people will upgrade to new iPhones.

Apple Inc. has told investors that it may book its first revenue decline in 13 years when it reports quarterly earnings in April due in part to weakness in the global economy. But the smartphone market has matured as well after a yearslong streak of blistering hot demand.



Image: Viktor Hanacek

A close-up photograph of a person's hand holding an iPhone. The phone is oriented vertically, showing its screen with various app icons. The background is blurred, showing a person in a suit and tie, suggesting a professional or corporate setting.

Apple relies on the iPhone for two-thirds of its revenue.

Tech blogs have speculated about an iPhone 7 to be released in the fall with dual cameras and wireless earbuds.

Apple pays up to \$350 for phones without cracked screens or broken buttons. For damaged phones, it will pay \$50 for a 5S, \$150 for a 6 and \$200 for a 6 Plus.

The changes, first reported on the tech blog 9to5Mac, were confirmed Friday by Apple spokesman Nick Leahy.

APPLE AND ALPHABET COMPETE TO BE THE WORLD'S MOST VALUABLE COMPANY

TWO TECH GIANTS DUKE IT OUT





Image: Peter Power



WHY CUPERTINO MAY BE BEST EQUIPPED IN THE LONG HAUL

If you have been keeping an eye on the technology headlines since the start of the month, you may have spotted that **the recently formed Google parent company Alphabet has apparently overtaken Apple as the most valuable firm on the planet**. It's shock news for many given the former's lack of name recognition, and has raised questions about Apple's long-term prospects against the young upstart - but is the media consensus about the two respective companies' fortunes the right one?

Before we plunge into the narrative, let's outline the bare facts. It was reported on Tuesday, February 2 that at the close of trading on Wall Street, Alphabet's shares had reached \$531 billion in value, shooting past the \$523.9 billion recorded by Apple after a modest decline.

Never mind the fact that a mere two days later, a drop in Alphabet's stock to a shade under \$500 billion **allowed Apple to vault back into the lead, with a market capitalization at close of \$534 billion**; the big news was that the Cupertino giant's grip on its long-held crown had been loosened for the first time since it surpassed Exxon Mobil for that honor way back in January 2012.

PLENTY OF CROWING FROM GOOGLE-FRIENDLY COMMENTATORS

Inevitably, the news of Alphabet's - albeit brief - takeover at the top was greeted with talk of a changing of the guard, a sense that

it reflected a very real transformation in the technology landscape.

Of course, even the most Google-biased observers probably made some perfectly valid points. Among them was J. Gold Associates analyst Jack Gold, who opined that Alphabet "is built on a services model, and the leverageable money is in services because it's less costly. People are looking at Apple and saying, 'Where's the next big thing?' When you pioneer a new marketplace and build something that's revolutionary, after a while it's not so revolutionary anymore, and other companies catch up."

Similar sentiments were expressed by Roger Kay, analyst and consultant at Endpoint Technologies Associates, who surmised that Apple CEO Tim Cook had "not been able to pull a rabbit out of his hat", and Moor Insights & Strategy analyst and consultant Patrick Moorhead, with his verdict that Alphabet "has a greater breadth of services, and that's what people are looking at".

TALK OF APPLE'S DECLINE MAY BE PREMATURE

There may seem good reasons to believe the hypothesis of Alphabet on the up and Apple on the slide - after all, while the Cupertino firm did see a 1.7% year-on-year rise in revenue in the fourth quarter of 2015, unit sales of the iPhone barely increased - by 0.4%. Furthermore, Cook admitted that the current quarter was actually likely to see a decline in sales of the handset on which Apple's fortunes have for so long depended.



Image: Peter Power



Alphabet's comparative jump in revenue of 17.8% since the fourth quarter of 2014 may seem foreboding for Apple, but not quite so much when you look at the other relevant statistics. Apple's revenue in the final three months of last year, for example, was higher than Alphabet managed for the entire 12 months. It was a similar story as far as profit was concerned, the Google parent company's \$16.4 billion earnings for the whole of 2015 dwarfed by the \$18.4 billion net income reported by Apple for the fourth quarter alone.

A look at the real-time accumulation of wealth by the world's biggest technology giants - including not only Apple and Google but also Facebook, Amazon, Microsoft, Netflix and many more - shows that Apple is still generating about 50% of the profits managed by almost all of its Internet 'rivals' put together. In the words of Jackdaw Research chief analyst Jan Dawson, "**Apple is massively larger and generates much more profit and cash at the end of the day**, and long-term I suspect it will get right back to growth."

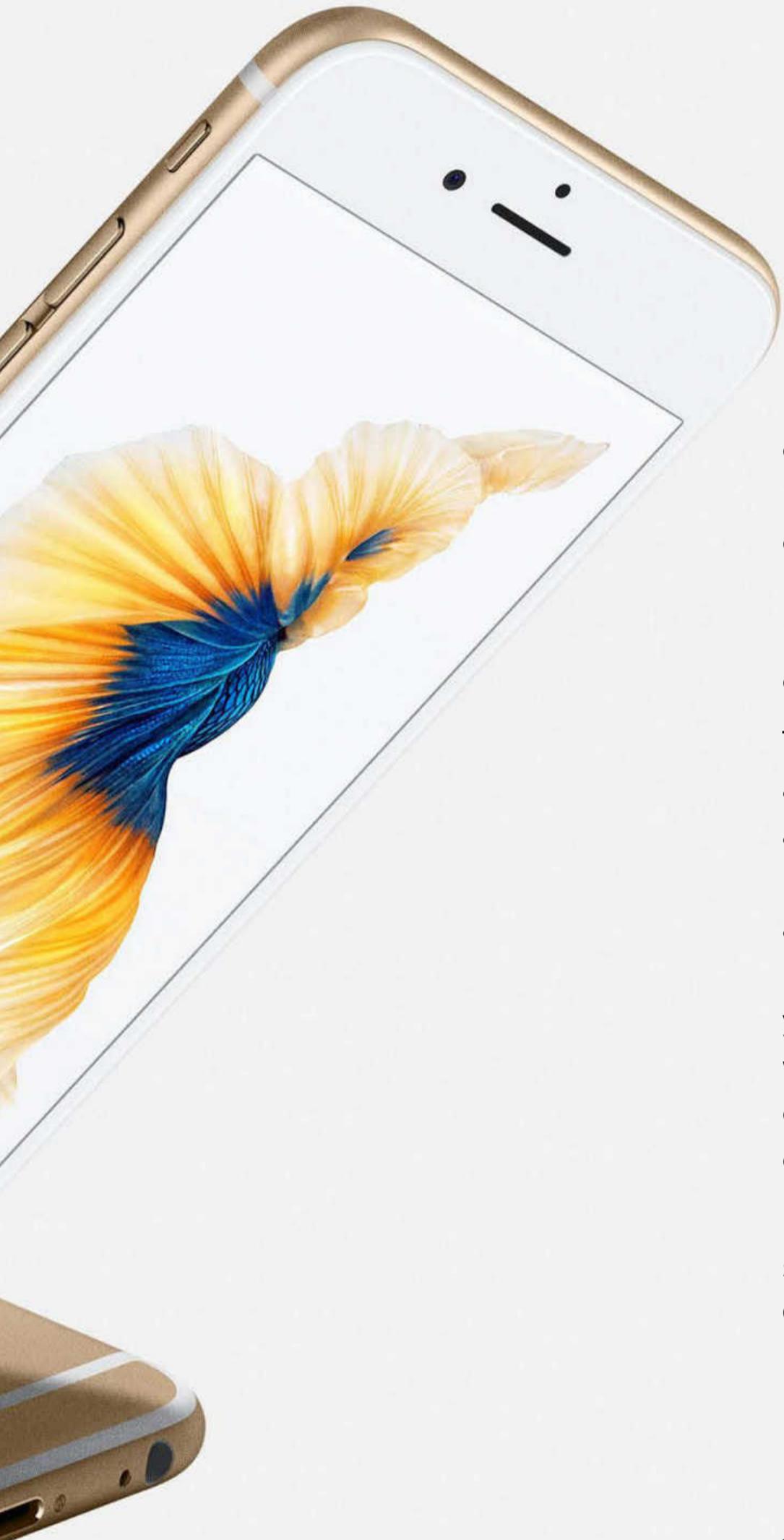
Dawson did add, however, that Apple was "going to have a tough year, while Google is looking really good right now given the short-term trends."

THE OTHER FACTORS KEEPING APPLE AHEAD

However, Apple's ultimate advantage over the competition - and particularly Alphabet - amounts to so much more than simply having a substantial head start. If anything, it is much more fundamental differences in the strategies







of the two companies that will keep Apple in its present position of relative dominance, encompassing everything from the precise nature of their products and services to the intricacies of their internal cultures and pre-existing strengths.

There's no denying, for example, the sheer adventurous approach taken by Alphabet to a wide range of categories, as demonstrated by pioneering projects like Google Glass, autonomous cars and the Nest smart-home business. However, none of these areas have yet generated big returns for Alphabet in the way that the iPhone and iPad proved instant game-changers for Apple in the late 2000s and early 2010s.

Furthermore, it would surely be wrong to suggest that Apple lacks pioneering verve under Cook, who recently held a company-wide Town Hall meeting at the Infinite Loop headquarters in Cupertino to express his excitement over the potential of new, albeit as-yet unannounced product categories. But he also talked up the value of incremental enhancements to longer-standing Apple products, including the iPhone, iPad and **new Apple TV, which he said set the stage for a “bright” future for the company in people’s living rooms.**



Image: Seth Wenig



APPLE NOT SET TO LOSE ITS ADVANTAGE FOR A WHILE YET

When news filtered through on February 3 that Apple had swiftly regained its mantle as the world's most valuable company, 9to5Mac writer Chance Miller speculated that "it could be a while before Alphabet is able to capture the title back." Furthermore, if one required additional reason for Apple's robustness even in the face of occasional stock market wobbles and investor expressions of doubt, they might find it through examination of the company's broader longstanding strategy.

Apple, after all, didn't get into its present formidable position by mere chance. **It got there because of a very clear philosophy that it continues to employ today** - of quality over quantity, of user friendliness over simply cramming its products and services with endless features, and of continually updating and refining its existing products rather than necessarily constantly introducing new ones. It also helps that Apple retains total control over both its hardware and software, and that it applies truly meticulous attention to detail in its development of products.

These differences in internal culture have been instrumental in keeping the iOS and iTunes ecosystems at the forefront of customer affections against the competing charms of Android and the Google Play Store. While Alphabet undoubtedly has real strengths outside the search advertising that largely powers its revenues - including both Android and YouTube - its various failed forays into new markets have begged the question of whether



many of the parent company's services and products simply represent a black hole for investment money.

Whereas Android, for instance, comes in many different versions that prevents users of some smartphones powered by the OS from enjoying the very latest software and therefore the best possible user experience, Apple has for many years ensured the same impeccable experience across all of its devices, which has helped to keep even relative newcomers loyal to its ecosystem.

The overall Apple approach is defined by a very strong and unified strategy for both hardware and software, assertive production and a small, focused portfolio of products. If you ask us, it is this distinct and proven approach - at least as much as any pre-existing cash advantage or even brand recognition or 'cache' - that looks set to keep the Cupertino giant ahead of the game in consumer technology for many more years to come.

by Benjamin Kerry & Gavin Lenaghan



LICENSE PLATE READERS A DOUBLE-EDGED SWORD FOR NY VILLAGE

When this Long Island village switched on its “ring of steel” last fall, it knew it was getting a potent policing tool. The system of 27 cameras would scan the license plate of every single vehicle that rolled into town. If a wanted criminal drove through, the system would sound an alert. If someone burglarized a house, the data could be mined to see who was on the road at the time.







Image: Jim Lo Scalzo



Police weren't prepared, though, for the firehose of less-valuable intelligence generated by the \$750,000 system.

Since the scanners went live Nov. 2, they have been triggering an average of 700 alarms a day, mainly about cars on the road with expired or suspended registration stickers. Officers have impounded 500 vehicles. They've written more than 2,000 court summonses, mostly for minor violations.

"It is a tremendous amount of workload that has been increased due to this new technology," said Miguel Bermudez, police chief in the town of Freeport.

Mayor Robert Kennedy dismissed any notion that the system may be diverting the department's attention from more serious offenses while Bermudez noted that it quickly became clear his 95 officers would be unable to respond to every ping signaling an infraction. After overtime expenses jumped at least 20 percent, the department has lately adjusted its approach, responding only to higher priority alarms.

But the chief is still talking about hiring another six to eight officers who would be dedicated solely to traffic duties and responding to license plate scanner alerts, in part because there have been some major successes.

In January, an officer responding to an alert about a stolen car discovered that the man behind the wheel, Tremain Williams, was wanted for killing a man in Norfolk, Virginia. Police found an M-4 assault rifle in the trunk. Williams has pleaded not guilty; his attorney declined to comment.

In its first 90 days of operation, 15 stolen cars were spotted and returned to their rightful owners.

About two dozen other crime suspects have been arrested, including two men suspected in a series of armed robberies who were in a stolen car as well as a man wanted for allegedly burglarizing local churches.

Kennedy would not say how much money has been generated through the village system, noting that it has only been up and running for about 90 days and it isn't possible to determine what the cost has been beyond the installation fee.

The use of license plate scanners has been proliferating at law enforcement agencies nationwide.

A 2012 study by the Police Executive Research Forum, a research and policy group, found that about 7 in 10 law enforcement agencies nationwide have at least some access to the technology.

Some departments mount scanners in patrol cars that capture data as officers drive around town. Others buy access to databases maintained by private companies that mount plate scanning cameras on tow trucks.

Civil liberties advocates have raised some privacy concerns. They say the cameras capture the movements of millions of drivers, regardless of whether they are being investigated by law enforcement.

Freeport's cameras have the capability of scanning about 2,000 cars per minute. So far, the village system has scanned plates more than 15 million times.

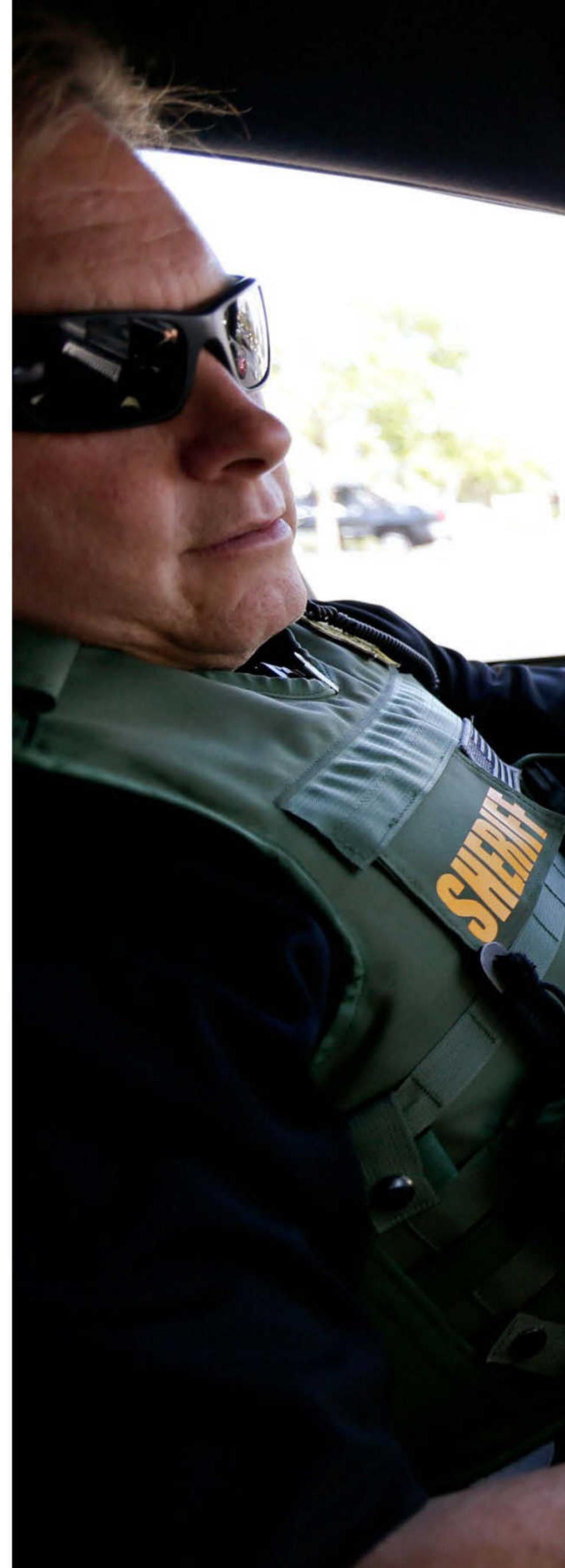






Image: Sasha Galatchenko

Different states and jurisdiction have different rules about how long collected plate data can be stored and when it may be accessed.

Jason Starr, the Nassau County chapter director at the New York Civil Liberties Union, said he is concerned that Freeport has yet to provide detailed information about who has access to the information.

"This is data that can be abused," he said. "There needs to be really tight measures on who has access to this information."





Image: Pablo Monsivais



GOP-LED CONGRESS UNLIKELY TO OK OBAMA'S NEW CLEAN ENERGY BID

President Barack Obama said Saturday that he will ask the Republican-led Congress to double spending on research and development into clean energy by 2020. But the request is unlikely to be fulfilled.

GOP lawmakers scoff at the science behind climate change and dismiss Obama's pleas for the issue to be dealt with urgently. In an unusual twist in Obama's final year in office, the Republican leaders of the House and Senate budget committees have said they will not hold a customary hearing on the president's budget proposal the day after they receive it.

Obama on Tuesday plans to send to Congress the spending blueprint for the budget year that begins Oct. 1. The release will come on the day when New Hampshire voters get their say in the first presidential primary of the 2016 race to succeed him.



Image: Shawn Thew

"Rather than subsidize the past, we should invest in the future," Obama said in his weekly radio and Internet address, outlining his wish for the increased spending.

Federal spending on research and development of clean energy would jump from \$6.4 billion this year to \$12.8 billion by 2020 under Obama's proposal, administration officials said.

Spending would increase by about 15 percent in each of the five years of the pledge. If approved, the budget that takes effect Oct. 1 would provide \$7.7 billion for clean energy research and development across 12 federal departments and agencies for the 2017 fiscal year.

Obama's proposal is part of an initiative he announced at last year's U.N. climate conference in Paris.







Some 20 countries, including the U.S., China, India and Brazil, have committed to double their respective budgets for this type of research over five years.

The White House said this past week that Obama wants oil companies to pay a \$10 fee on every barrel of oil to help raise money for spending on clean transportation to combat climate change. House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., immediately declared the president's proposed oil tax "dead on arrival."

Online:

Obama's address: <http://tinyurl.com/jfcslxm>

INDIA INTERNET RULING BLOCKS FACEBOOK 'FREE BASICS' PROGRAM



India's government has essentially banned a Facebook program that sought to connect with low-income residents by offering free access to a limited version of the social network and other Internet services.

The ruling is a major setback for Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg, who had lobbied hard for the program as part of a campaign to expand Internet access in developing countries. It's a victory for critics who argued that Facebook's "Free Basics" program gave an unfair advantage to some Internet services over others.





facebook

Image: © Stephen Lam / Reuters



Facebook has introduced "Free Basics" in partnership with wireless carriers in dozens of emerging nations, where the company hopes to get more people online. The service provides free access to a stripped-down version of Facebook and certain other Internet sites - including some that provide essential information like weather forecasts, health education and job listings.

But the program has sparked debate in some countries, particularly India, where critics contend that "Free Basics" effectively steers users toward Facebook and its partners, while making it harder for other Internet services - including homegrown startups - to build their own audiences.

In a much-awaited decision Monday, Indian regulators said telecommunications providers may not charge different or "discriminatory" rates for delivering different kinds of Internet content.

The ruling essentially bans programs like "Free Basics" that are based on what's known as "zero rating" in industry jargon, because they don't charge for downloading certain kinds of data. In a policy memo, Indian regulators warned that such programs raise the risk that users' "knowledge and outlook ... would be shaped only by the information made available by those select offerings."

The regulators said their decision was guided by the principles of net neutrality, or the concept that all websites and apps should be treated equally by Internet access providers. Net neutrality advocates contend that charging different rates based on content is unfair both

to consumers and to Internet services that are competing for consumers' attention.

U.S. regulators endorsed net neutrality in rules enacted last year, but those rules don't specifically ban carriers from exempting some services from data limits. The Federal Communications Commission is now studying the zero-rating issue.

Facebook said in a statement that it's disappointed with the ruling but will continue its efforts to increase Internet access. "Our goal with Free Basics is to bring more people online with an open, non-exclusive and free platform," the company said.

Zuckerberg had campaigned hard for the program, making personal visits to India and publishing an open letter in at least one newspaper there. Facebook also responded to critics of "Free Basics" last year by creating a new platform for outside developers to contribute apps for the program.

Facebook has about 130 million users in India. But like other U.S.-based Internet companies, it sees a huge opportunity to expand by reaching the estimated 1 billion Indians who don't have Internet access.

"Free Basics" is part of a broader effort, dubbed Internet.org, in which Facebook has also tried to



F8



work with phone-makers on designs that reduce data usage and extend battery life. In addition, the company is working on long-range projects to develop drones and satellites that deliver Internet service to remote areas.

While Zuckerberg has acknowledged Facebook's business would benefit from gaining more users around the world, he's also argued that Internet access is a powerful tool for economic development in low-income regions.

"Connecting India is an important goal we won't give up on, because more than a billion people in India don't have access to the internet," Zuckerberg wrote Monday in a post on Facebook. "We know that connecting them can help lift people out of poverty, create millions of jobs and spread education opportunities. We care about these people, and that's why we're so committed to connecting them."

TV PRODUCERS MAY START MAKING YOU WAIT FOR NEW SHOWS ONLINE



Image: Carlo Allegri



The Golden Age of Online Television may be in peril.

Streaming TV has gotten popular as several online services such as Netflix make past seasons of TV shows available for binge-watching, while Hulu offers episodes from the current season.

Now, some television companies are balking at giving them timely access to shows.

The big worry: Making streaming TV too pleasant might encourage viewers to cut back or drop their cable service. Cable and satellite companies now pay TV networks billions of dollars a year to carry their channels. In turn, TV production companies make a lot from licensing fees paid by the networks.

Cord-cutting could jeopardize all of those arrangements, and the audience and ad revenue boost from the Internet might not be enough to make up for any revenue losses from traditional TV.

Time Warner Inc., which has both networks and a production business, has been exploring the possibility of holding back some of its DC Comics superhero shows such as "The Flash" and "Supergirl." If it took that step, viewers might have to wait years to watch the most recent episodes online; now, they're typically available no more than a year after airing.

Hulu may be next. The Wall Street Journal recently reported that Time Warner is in talks to invest in Hulu and has told Hulu's owners that it wants to curtail current-season TV episodes, which Hulu now makes available as early as the next day.

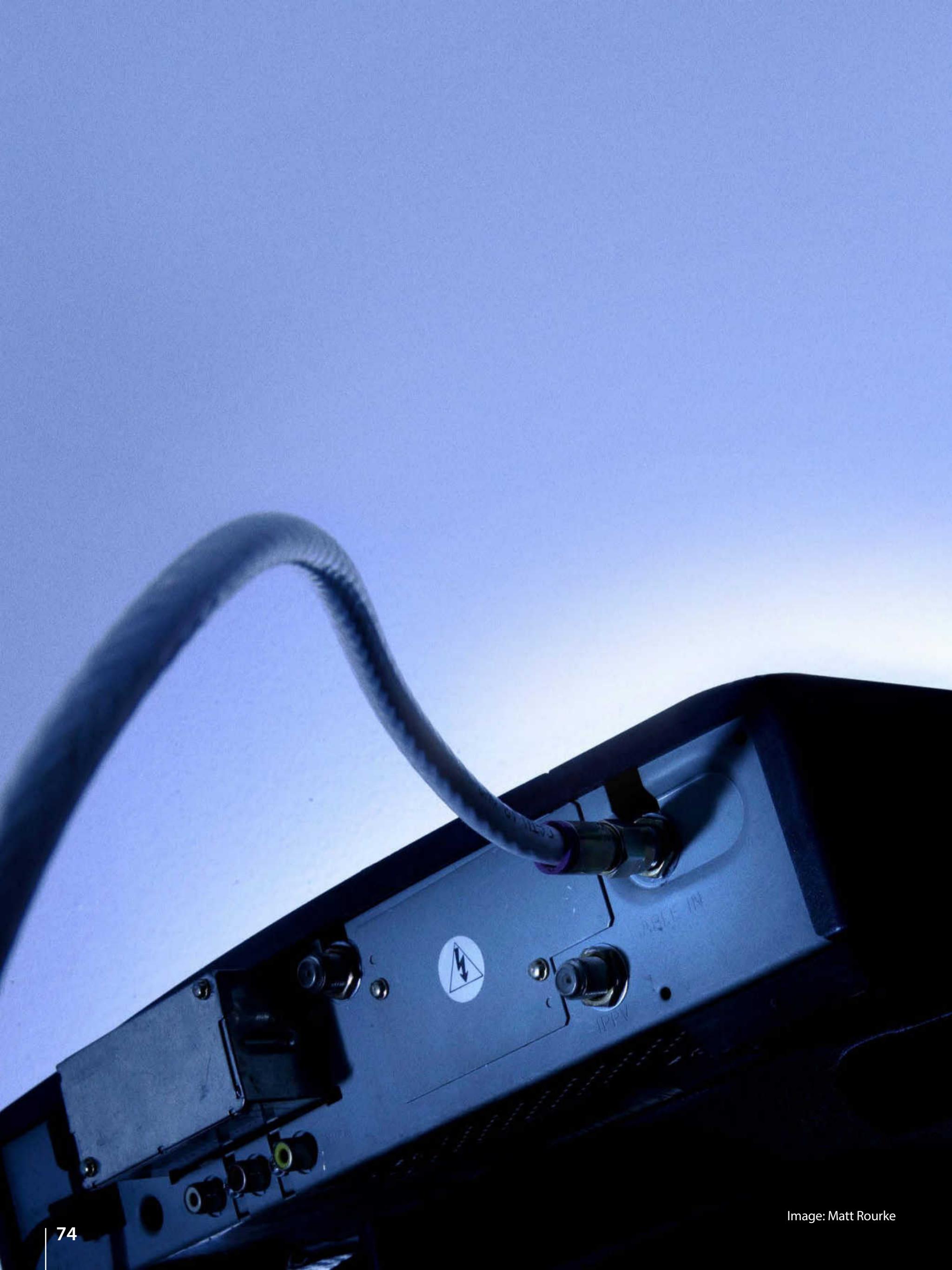


Image: Matt Rourke



It's not yet clear what such restrictions might look like. Time Warner and Hulu didn't respond to requests for comment, though Time Warner may reveal more of its digital strategy when it reports quarterly earnings Wednesday.

The tremors emanating from Time Warner are just the latest instance of established media companies looking to protect their established partners and deals, whether viewers like it or not.

Hulu already has pulled back in recent years. When it launched nearly a decade ago, the service offered most shows from its network parents the morning after they aired. These days, many Fox and ABC shows require a Hulu or cable subscription for next-day viewing. Otherwise, viewers have to wait eight days - or a month in the case of Fox's "So You Think You Can Dance." And for Fox, Hulu now has just the past four episodes - not five - for free.

All online services, meanwhile, have been dabbling in creating their own television shows. Netflix won accolades for such original shows as "House of Cards," while Hulu commissioned a fourth season of "The Mindy Project" when Fox canceled it. Original shows help services set themselves apart from each other and could ease the impact of any pullback in traditional TV shows.





But for now, these services are mostly about giving viewers a chance to catch up on what's been shown on traditional TV - and giving viewers less of a reason to tune in.

"To a certain degree, you can't put the genie back in the bottle," said Anthony DiClemente, an analyst at Nomura Securities. "Once people are accustomed to it, that's going to be the expectation."

Traditional cable and satellite TV services have been in slow decline for years, in part because younger audiences aren't signing up and are turning to online options instead. The decline isn't big enough to threaten cable and television companies immediately, but they are taking notice. And the numbers hide the fact that many subscribers are opting for cheaper packages with fewer channels.

"What we're seeing is a constant game of tug-o-war," said John Buffone, an analyst at the NPD Group.

As services like Netflix and Hulu boom, he said, television companies are looking for ways they can hold onto more of those streaming revenues themselves.

The changes are especially noticeable at Hulu, which is owned by parents of the very television networks - Fox, ABC and NBC - threatened by changes in the way we watch TV. Hulu has set itself apart by offering new TV episodes faster than its rivals; making viewers wait longer could limit its appeal.

"Hulu's DNA has been recent episodes of TV shows," said Glenn Hower, an analyst at the research firm Parks Associates.





The apparent anxiety at television companies is common to any industry that's faced what Harvard business professor Clayton Christensen calls "The Innovator's Dilemma." That's when established companies find their big, lucrative businesses undercut by innovative rivals with cheaper - and, at least at first, less profitable - alternatives. The big companies can't embrace the new approaches without helping cannibalize their own cash cows.

Viewed through that prism, Hulu has been a mostly successful half-measure. Its biggest accomplishment may have been to help accustom people to paying for TV over the Internet. Given that it was established when piracy was rampant, that's no small feat.

Though Hulu still offers ad-supported shows you can watch for free, more viewers are paying at least \$8 a month for viewing on mobile and streaming-TV devices and for full current seasons of some shows. As of last April, the last time Hulu disclosed figures, it had 9 million paying subscribers, a 50 percent increase from the previous year. Netflix, meanwhile, had 45 million U.S. streaming subscribers at the end of 2015, a 14 percent increase.

NETFLIX

A NETFLIX ORIGINAL SERIES

ORANGE
is the BLACK





Yet the traditional TV business remains sizable - and will remain so for years. Even with a 1 percent drop over the past year, 98.3 million U.S. households subscribe to a cable or satellite TV service, research firm Moffett Nathanson estimates.

As a result, expanded streaming deals might not make up for what TV companies might lose if that big business continues to shrink. The fees that cable and satellite companies pay television networks and stations to carry their channels are estimated at \$60 billion this year, up 6 percent from 2015, according to media research firm SNL Kagan.

From that standpoint, Hower said, it makes sense to cling to older, well-established partners - the cable companies.



WITH RESTRAINT, YOUTUBE ROLLS OUT ORIGINAL PROGRAMMING



Michael "Burnie" Burns hears a discrepancy.

Before greeting moviegoers at the debut of his film, the writer-actor is eavesdropping on all the big-budget movie trailers playing ahead of his much smaller crowdfunded concoction, "Lazer Team."

Suddenly, a roar from a monster in one of the previews literally rattles the theater's walls.

"I bet the sound budget for that was bigger than the whole budget for my movie," the bearded Internet personality says with a grin.

Despite its modest price tag, there's a hefty amount of enthusiasm for the \$2.5 million sci-fi comedy about a group of dolts bestowed with alien technology.





"Lazer Team" was the most funded original film in Indiegogo's history, and it's been selling out hundreds of theaters for fan screenings since Jan. 27. However, many more devotees of Burns and his Rooster Teeth production company will be able to watch the movie beginning Wednesday on YouTube.

The streaming site is attempting to make some noise of its own with a crop of films and shows that will be exclusively available with YouTube Red, a subscription service the San Bruno, California-based company launched last October.

Unlike the millions of other videos posted on the streaming site, "Lazer Team" and the other YouTube Originals will only be available with a YouTube Red subscription, which also provides ad-free access to the site and a music service for \$10 a month.

For their leap into premium programming, YouTube isn't attempting to imitate Netflix, Hulu or Amazon, which offer films and shows rivaling traditional Hollywood content. While its first crop of movies and series don't look like they were filmed with a webcam in someone's basement, YouTube Originals also don't have the scope of a Marvel movie or an episode of "Game of Thrones" either.

"They're not trying to do something entirely different," said Burns, an online video pioneer who first went viral with "Red vs. Blue," a digital series inspired by the "Halo" video game franchise. "They're just taking YouTube to the next level."

In addition to "Lazer Team," YouTube Originals is launching with a documentary profiling YouTube comedienne Lilly "Superwoman" Singh embarking on a world tour, the dance flick "Dance Camp" starring young Internet personalities and a reality series centering on top YouTuber Felix "PewDiePie" Kjellberg living out his nightmares.

"We're fishing where there's fish," said Suzanne Daniels, the former president of MTV who now serves as the global head of original content at YouTube. "We're working with top creators to do something they normally wouldn't do on their channel."

For its first show for YouTube Red, the site enlisted Kjellberg to swap playing scary video games on his channel to instead be dropped into frightening scenarios conceived by "The Walking Dead" creator Skybound Entertainment.





"It is very different, but it's also very similar to what I do," said Kjellberg, who has more than 42 million subscribers. "I play horror games, and this is basically just taking that into the real world. It felt like a natural extension."

Meanwhile, "A Trip to Unicorn Island" profiles Singh's highs and lows as she stages a world tour showcasing her acting-and-dancing abilities - all while keeping up with her YouTube channel. The documentary doesn't shy away from showing the emotional tolls it took on Singh.

"It was such a different process for me," said Singh, who has more than 7.8 million subscribers. "I'm used to shooting and editing all my videos. It was very difficult for me to let go of that control and allow a director and editor capture me, but that's the beauty of it. You get to see me from a different point of view."

Besides selling \$10 subscriptions, the move into premium content is also an opportunity for YouTube to keep top talent from straying. Several high-profile YouTubers, such as Colleen "MirandaSings" Ballinger-Evans, Freddie Wong and "Awkward Black Girl" creator Issa Rae have recently been tapped by the likes of Netflix, Hulu and HBO for projects.

"It speaks to the power of YouTube to build these stars to a certain level that these other networks and platforms are interested in working with them," said Daniels. "It remains to be seen whether the fans will go find them on the other platforms."

YouTube currently has dozens of original programming projects in development for YouTube Red, and Daniels said they plan to roll out between 15 and 20 shows and films in 2016. They're also looking to stream films licensed from other outlets.









Will millennials - YouTube's biggest audience - want to fork over \$10 to watch content on a site that's been giving it away for over a decade?

The streaming site declined to specify how many users have already signed up for YouTube Red or how much its spending on the original programming effort. However, Daniels is optimistic viewers won't click the dislike button.

"The hope is that it'll be like any subscription service," said Daniels. "It's a great value. I think viewers might first try it out because they're interested in what 'PewDiePie' is up to with his series, but then they'll stick around to see other creators' projects and movies."

Online: <http://www.youtube.com/red>

TOP Free Apps

ios



#01 – Color Switch

By Samuel Ratumaitavuki

Category: Games

Requires iOS 6.0 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch.



#02 – Blocky Football

By Full Fat

Category: Games

Requires iOS 7.0 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch.



#03 – Facebook Messenger

By Facebook, Inc.

Category: Social Networking

Requires iOS 7.0 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch.



#04 – Snapchat

By Snapchat, Inc.

Category: Photo & Video

Requires iOS 7.0 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch.



#05 – Instagram

By Instagram, Inc.

Category: Photo & Video

Requires iOS 7.0 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch.



#06 – YouTube

By Google, Inc.

Category: Photo & Video

Requires iOS 7.0 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch.



#07 – Facebook

By Facebook, Inc.

Category: Social Networking

Requires iOS 7.0 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch.



#08 – Pandora

By Pandora Media, Inc.

Category: Music

Requires iOS 7.0 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch.



#09 – Candy Crush Jelly Saga

By King

Category: Games

Requires iOS 6.0 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch.



#10 – Trump Dump

By daydream

Category: Games

Requires iOS 7.0 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch.

TOP Free Apps



#01 – OS X El Capitan

By Apple
Category: Utilities
Compatibility: OS X 10.6.8 or later



#02 – Kindle

By AMZN Mobile LLC
Category: Reference
Compatibility: OS X 10.8 or later



#03 – TurboTax 2015

By Intuit Inc.
Category: Finance
Compatibility: OS X 10.8 or later, 64-bit processor



#04 – Xcode

By Apple
Category: Developer Tools
Compatibility: OS X 10.8.4 or later



#05 – ooVoo Video Call, Text and Voice

By ooVoo LLC
Category: Social Networking
Compatibility: OS X 10.7 or later, 64-bit processor



#06 – OneDrive

By Microsoft Corporation
Category: Productivity
Compatibility: OS X 10.9.0 or later, 64-bit processor



#07 – App for Instagram

By Joacim Ståhl
Category: Social Networking
Compatibility: OS X 10.7 or later, 64-bit processor



#08 – The Unarchiver

By Dag Agren
Category: Utilities
Compatibility: OS X 10.6.0 or later, 64-bit processor



#09 – Full Deck Solitaire

By GRL Games
Category: Games
Compatibility: OS X 10.6.6 or later



#10 – Microsoft OneNote

By Microsoft Corporation
Category: Productivity
Compatibility: OS X 10.10 or later



Mac OS X

TOP Paid Apps

iOS



#01 – Face Swap Live

By Mojang

Category: Games / Price: \$6.99

Requires iOS 5.1.1 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch.



#02 – Minecraft – Pocket Edition

By Mojang

Category: Games / Price: \$6.99

Requires iOS 5.1.1 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch.



#03 – Heads Up!

By Warner Bros.

Category: Games / Price: \$0.99

Requires iOS 7.0 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch.



#04 – Geometry Dash

By RobTop Games AB

Category: Games / Price: \$1.99

Requires iOS 5.1.1 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch.



#05 – Themeable

By Jeffrey Peters

Category: Utilities / Price: \$1.99

Requires iOS 9.1 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch.

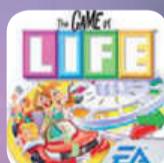


#06 – Facetune

By Lightricks Ltd.

Category: Photo & Video / Price: \$3.99

Requires iOS 7.0 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch.



#07 – THE GAME OF LIFE Classic Edition

By Electronic Arts

Category: Games / Price: \$0.99

Requires iOS 5.1.1 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch.



#08 – Akinator the Genie

By Elokence

Category: Entertainment / Price: \$1.99

Requires iOS 7.0 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch.



#09 – Bloons TD 5

By Ninja Kiwi

Category: Games / Price: \$2.99

Requires iOS 6.0 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch.

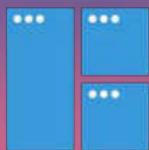


#10 – MONOPOLY Game

By Electronic Arts

Category: Games / Price: \$0.99

Requires iOS 5.1.1 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch.



#01 – Magnet

By CrowdCafé

Category: Productivity / Price: \$1.99

Compatibility: OS X 10.8 or later, 64-bit processor



#02 – GarageBand

By Apple

Category: Music / Price: \$4.99

Compatibility: OS X 10.9 or later



#03 – Polarr Photo Editor

By Polarr, Inc.

Category: Photography / Price: \$9.99

Compatibility: OS X 10.10 or later, 64-bit processor



#04 – AntiVirus Sentinel Pro

By Calin Popescu

Category: Utilities / Price: \$9.99

Compatibility: OS X 10.7 or later, 64-bit processor



#05 – OneOffice

By Longquan Zhu

Category: Business / Price: \$24.99

Compatibility: OS X 10.10 or later, 64-bit processor



#06 – Logic Pro X

By Apple

Category: Music / Price: \$199.99

Compatibility: OS X 10.8.4 or later, 64-bit processor



#07 – Final Cut Pro

By Apple

Category: Video / Price: \$299.99

Compatibility: OS X 10.10.4 or later, 64-bit processor



#08 – Notability

By Ginger Labs

Category: Productivity / Price: \$5.99

Compatibility: OS X 10.9 or later, 64-bit processor



#09 – Word Writer

By Zou Yang

Category: Productivity / Price: \$9.99

Compatibility: OS X 10.4.0 or later, 64-bit processor



#10 – The Sims™ 2: Super Collection

By Aspyr Media, Inc.

Category: Games / Price: \$29.99

Compatibility: OS X 10.9.2 or later

TOP Paid Apps



Mac OS X

iTunes

Review



Trailer



Movies & TV Shows



iTunes Preview



by Tom McCarthy

Genre: Drama

Released: 2015

Price: \$14.99



87 Ratings

Rotten Tomatoes



96%

Spotlight

This biographical drama movie sees a group of investigative journalists, known as the "Spotlight" team, attempt to uncover the truth about allegations of child abuse within the Catholic Church.

FIVE FACTS:

1. The movie is based on a real life event, which soon spun into an international scandal.
2. Spotlight is directed by Tom McCarthy, who has also worked on Up, 2012, and Game of Thrones.
3. The movie is written by McCarthy and Josh Singer, Singer having also worked on Fringe, The West Wing, and Law& Order: Special Victims Unit.
4. Spotlight finished third in the audience balloting for the People's Choice Award at the 2015 Toronto International Film Festival.
5. The movie has already received 152 nominations, winning 92 of them.





Cast Interview

The 33

An adaptation of the 2010 Chilean Mining disaster, this movie follows the story of the 33 miners that become trapped inside the San Jose Mine for over two months, their families, and the lengths reached to rescue them.

FIVE FACTS:

1. The 33 is the final movie with a musical score by James Horner, who died shortly before the movie's release. Horner's other work includes working on scores for Avatar, Aliens, and Titanic.
2. This movie is partially written by Craig Borten, who has also worked on popular 2013 movie Dallas Buyers Club.
3. Produced by Mike Medavoy, who has also produced Shutter Island, Black Swan, and Zodiac.
4. This movie isn't the official representation of the miner's ordeal, and is instead based on the official book about their struggle entitled Deep Down Dark.
5. The real-life mine has remained closed since the incident.



[iTunes Preview](#)



by Patricia Rigen

Genre: Drama

Released: 2016

Price: \$19.99



26 Ratings

Rotten Tomatoes
 43%



Trailer





Cast Interview

iTunes Review



[iTunes Preview](#)



Coming Home



Genre: R&B/ Soul
Released: Feb 05, 2016
15 Songs
Price: \$12.99

★★★★★
21 Ratings

LEON BRIDGES COMING HOME

Music



Coming Home (Deluxe)

Leon Bridges

A deluxe edition of the Texan singer-songwriter's debut is an absolutely must-buy for any fans of soul or blues. Although he adds a contemporary twist at times, Bridges' music sounds as though it's straight from the fifties and sixties itself.

FIVE FACTS:

1. Having only been signed with Columbia Records in 2014, Bridges has already performed with or collaborated with major acts including Pharrell Williams and Macklemore & Ryan Lewis.
2. Bridges is currently signed to Columbia Records, who also play host to Adele, Jack White, and Iron Maiden.
3. Bridges has already made appearances at major concert venues and music festivals including London's Roundhouse and Shepherd's Bush Empire, SXSW festival, and Sundance Film Festival.
4. Debut single 'Coming Home' became one of Spotify's Top 10 Most Viral Tracks not long after its release.
5. Bridges worked as a dishwasher before being signed to Columbia Records.





Smooth Sailin'

MASS

Night Thoughts

Suede

This is Suede's seventh album and their second since reforming in 2010. It's an unexpectedly compelling album that brings back memories of their 90s glory days. This may even be their best album yet!

FIVE FACTS:

1. Suede are cited as to having kickstarted the 'Britpop' scene that occurred in Britain in the mid-nineties. Other significant bands from this movement include Oasis, Blur, and Pulp.
2. Suede's self-titled debut album was the fastest-selling debut album in almost ten years, at the time.
3. Former guitarist Bernard Butler, who left the band in 1994, has since collaborated with other musical acts including The Libertines, Neneh Cherry, and Black Kids.
4. Suede's popularity in the United States has been rather limited, due to being sued from an American singer-songwriter also known as Suede. Because of this, the band has to release albums in the US under 'The London Suede'.
5. Three out of Suede's seven studio albums have reached number 1 in the UK Charts.



[iTunes Preview](#)



Genre: Rock

Released: Jan 22, 2016

12 Songs

Price: \$9.99



23 Ratings



Outsiders

suede

NIGHT THOUGHTS





Like Kids



BOX OFFICE TOP 20: 'KUNG FU PANDA' ROARS PAST THE COENS



Nothing could punt "Kung Fu Panda 3" from the top spot at the box office over Super Bowl weekend, where the 20th Century Fox animated sequel hauled in \$21.2 million in its second week of release.

A trio of new releases didn't come close to challenging. Joel and Ethan Coen's 1950s Hollywood send-up "Hail, Caesar!" opened unspectacularly with \$11.4 million for Universal. The latest Nicholas Sparks adaptation "The Choice" debuted with a meager \$6.1 million for Lionsgate. And the Sony Screen Gems Jane Austen monster mashup "Pride and Prejudice and Zombies" scared up only \$5.3 million.

2



5





The top 20 movies at U.S. and Canadian theaters Friday through Sunday, followed by distribution studio, gross, number of theater locations, average receipts per location, total gross and number of weeks in release, as compiled Monday by comScore:

1. *"Kung Fu Panda 3,"* 20th Century Fox, \$21,242,181, 3,987 locations, \$5,328 average, \$69,293,138, 2 weeks.

2. *"Hail, Caesar!"* Universal, \$11,355,225, 2,232 locations, \$5,087 average, \$11,355,225, 1 week.

3. *"Star Wars: The Force Awakens,"* Disney, \$6,973,316, 2,262 locations, \$3,083 average, \$906,044,785, 8 weeks.

4. *"The Revenant,"* 20th Century Fox, \$6,939,795, 3,018 locations, \$2,299 average, \$149,543,198, 7 weeks.

5. *"The Choice,"* Lionsgate, \$6,050,443, 2,631 locations, \$2,300 average, \$6,050,443, 1 week.

6



9





6. *"Pride And Prejudice And Zombies,"* Sony, \$5,324,240, 2,931 locations, \$1,817 average, \$5,324,240, 1 week.

7. *"The Finest Hours,"* Disney, \$4,826,239, 3,143 locations, \$1,536 average, \$18,491,899, 2 weeks.

8. *"Ride Along 2,"* Universal, \$4,560,715, 2,172 locations, \$2,100 average, \$77,247,545, 4 weeks.

9. *"The Boy,"* STX Entertainment, \$4,083,822, 2,214 locations, \$1,845 average, \$26,881,506, 3 weeks.

10. *"Dirty Grandpa,"* Lionsgate, \$4,040,023, 2,567 locations, \$1,574 average, \$29,379,776, 3 weeks.

11



14





11. *"The 5th Wave,"* Sony, \$3,773,788, 2,346 locations, \$1,609 average, \$25,738,988, 3 weeks.

12. *"13 Hours: The Secret Soldiers Of Benghazi,"* Paramount, \$2,850,304, 2,059 locations, \$1,384 average, \$47,742,896, 4 weeks.

13. *"Fifty Shades Of Black,"* Open Road, \$2,080,924, 2,075 locations, \$1,003 average, \$9,371,544, 2 weeks.

14. *"The Big Short,"* Paramount, \$1,710,205, 860 locations, \$1,989 average, \$63,660,681, 9 weeks.

15. *"Daddy's Home,"* Paramount, \$1,477,840, 1,018 locations, \$1,452 average, \$145,237,796, 7 weeks.



19

A photograph of a man with dark hair, wearing a light blue button-down shirt, sitting at a desk and looking at a computer monitor. The monitor is dark, and the desk has some papers and a lamp on it. The background is slightly out of focus.

17

16. *“Brooklyn,”* Fox Searchlight, \$1,179,319, 703 locations, \$1,678 average, \$32,380,262, 14 weeks.

17. *“Spotlight,”* Open Road, \$835,514, 668 locations, \$1,251 average, \$36,104,348, 14 weeks.

18. *“Room,”* A24 Films, \$731,117, 631 locations, \$1,159 average, \$11,201,500, 17 weeks.

19. *“45 Years,”* IFC Films, \$475,908, 154 locations, \$3,090 average, \$1,986,920, 7 weeks.

20. *“2016 Oscar Shorts,”* Magnolia Pictures, \$427,455, 170 locations, \$2,514 average, \$1,213,854, 2 weeks.

Universal and Focus are owned by NBC Universal, a unit of Comcast Corp.; Sony, Columbia, Sony Screen Gems and Sony Pictures Classics are units of Sony Corp.; Paramount is owned by Viacom Inc.; Disney, Pixar and Marvel are owned by The Walt Disney Co.; Miramax is owned by Filmyard Holdings LLC; 20th Century Fox and Fox Searchlight are owned by 21st Century Fox; Warner Bros. and New Line are units of Time Warner Inc.; MGM is owned by a group of former creditors including Highland Capital, Anchorage Advisors and Carl Icahn; Lionsgate is owned by Lions Gate Entertainment Corp.; IFC is owned by AMC Networks Inc.; Rogue is owned by Relativity Media LLC.

'GOOD WIFE' CREATORS WELCOME SHOW'S END; POSSIBLE SPINOFF?





"The Good Wife" creators Robert and Michelle King say they welcomed CBS' decision to end the series, allowing them to write its final chapter.

The Kings already had decided to exit as executive producers after this season, the seventh, leaving CBS to weigh whether to keep the critically acclaimed show afloat without them.

On Sunday, the network used its Super Bowl telecast to announce that "The Good Wife" was heading into its final nine episodes, with the series finale to air May 8.

The Kings had just learned of the decision in the past week, they told a phone news conference Monday.

"We felt very fortunate and flattered that we're being allowed to end the show the way we hoped it would end," Michelle King said. "The Good Wife" airs 9 p.m. EST Sunday.



Image: Justin Stephens



CBS may have faced the loss of series star Julianna Margulies as well. At an event last month honoring the Kings, Margulies joked in her speech that she'd only shown up because she would soon be out of work and needed the exposure.

The actress "was kind of up in the air" about returning as lawyer Alicia Florick, Michael King said. Margulies has won two Emmys for the role.

But after conversations in recent days involving her, CBS, the studio and the Kings, the conclusion was that everybody "really wanted to go all together," Michelle King said.

The couple, who are moving on to a new series for CBS, the comic political thriller "BrainDead," said they had long envisioned "Good Wife" as lasting seven years.

To avoid spoilers, the Kings spoke in broad strokes about how their critically acclaimed drama will conclude.

Robert King said he likes shows that "end with some resonance," citing "Breaking Bad" and "Six Feet Under" as memorable examples.

"What I admire an ending that feels inevitable and surprising," Michelle King said.

There will be a return of characters who have been offstage, including Gary Cole's Kurt McVeigh, but viewers won't see private investigator Kalinda Sharma, played by Emmy-winner Archie Panjabi.

Kalinda chose to disappear and "it wouldn't make any sense to bring her back," Michelle King said.

Asked about a possible "Good Wife" spinoff, she said "nothing's off the table but there's nothing formal. ... We're not saying 'no' to anything at this point."

Robert King said such a spinoff likely would be an ensemble drama focusing on characters who haven't gotten as much attention, such as Elsbeth Tascioni, played by Carrie Preston, or Martha Plimpton's Patti Nyholm.

"The Good Wife," initially built on the response of Margulies' character to a scandal involving her politician husband (Chris Noth), was centered on the world of Chicago law and politics.

In early January, CBS programming chief Glenn Geller told reporters that the network hadn't decided the show's future without the Kings.

Online:

<http://www.cbs.com/shows/the-good-wife>







Image: Angel Chevrestt

RED LOBSTER ENJOYS SALES SURGE AFTER MENTION IN BEYONCE SONG



Red Lobster says it's feeling the "Beyonce Bounce."

The seafood chain known for its cheddar biscuits says sales surged 33 percent on Sunday, compared with last year's Super Bowl Sunday. The increase came after the release of "Formation," in which Beyonce says she took a man to Red Lobster after sex. It's hard to imagine hordes of people rushing to Red Lobster after hearing the song, but the chain says it's sure the mention is responsible for at least part of its sales jump.

Other factors also likely helped. Red Lobster notes this year's winter wasn't as harsh, meaning people were likely more willing to head out to restaurants. And the chain is running a "Lobsterfest" promotion that it didn't last year.

The pop culture spotlight from Beyoncé is nevertheless a welcome change for Red Lobster, which was sold by Darden Restaurants in July of 2014 after it suffered ongoing declines in sales. The chain, which is now privately held by investment firm Golden Gate Capital, says it has posted sales gains every quarter since the separation.

And after the mention by Beyoncé, it says it was also a trending topic on Twitter for the first time.

"It's clear that Beyoncé has helped create some Red Lobster fans, and we are very grateful to her for that," Red Lobster CEO Kim Lopdrup said in a statement.

Erica Ettori, a Red Lobster representative, said she could not "confirm or deny" whether the chain has reached out to superstar, but noted that things were "moving fast."

Regardless, the chain is already trying to make the most of its moment, noting that lobster is considered a romantic food. The chain also tweeted that, "Cheddar Bey Biscuits" has a nice ring to it, don't you think?" The tweet had more than 14,000 retweets as of Tuesday afternoon, but some mocked Red Lobster for taking several hours to respond, only to come up with something they deemed underwhelming.

Red Lobster, based in Orlando, Florida, has more than 700 locations in the U.S. and Canada.



Image: Sean M. Haffey







FEDS FIND FIAT CHRYSLER GEAR SHIFTERS CAN CONFUSE DRIVERS

Electronic gear shifters on some newer Fiat Chrysler SUVs and cars are so confusing that drivers have exited the vehicles with the engines running and while they are still in gear, causing crashes and serious injuries, U.S. safety investigators have determined.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, in documents posted during the weekend, has doubled the number of vehicles involved in an investigation of the problem, but it stopped short of seeking a recall. The agency found more than 100 crashes and over a dozen injuries, mostly in Jeep Grand Cherokees.



Audi multimedia

OFF

PASSENGER
AIRBAG OFF

70°F 70°F

AUTO

REAR

OFF

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TO

FRONT

SYNC

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Agency tests found that operating the center console shift lever “is not intuitive and provides poor tactile and visual feedback to the driver, increasing the potential for unintended gear selection,” investigators wrote in the documents. They upgraded the probe to an engineering analysis, which is a step closer to a recall. NHTSA will continue to gather information and seek a recall if necessary, a spokesman said.

The investigation could determine just how much automakers can change the way cars operate when they introduce new technology, and how far they can stray from conventional ways of controlling vehicles that drivers are accustomed to.

Jake Fisher, director of auto testing for Consumer Reports, expects more problems and investigations as automakers continue to roll out new electronic controls that are unfamiliar to drivers. “I think the manufacturers need to be much more responsible as they try these new technologies,” he said.

The government’s probe now covers more than 856,000 vehicles including the popular Jeep Grand Cherokee SUV from the 2014 and 2015 model years and the 2012 through 2014 Dodge Charger and Chrysler 300 sedans with 3.6-liter V6 engines.

In the vehicles, drivers pull the shift lever forward or backward to select gears and the shifter doesn’t move along a track like in most cars. A light shows which gear is selected, but to get from Drive to Park, drivers must push the lever forward three times. The gearshift does not have notches that match up with the gear you want to shift into, and it moves back to a centered position after the driver picks a gear.



The vehicles sound a chime and issue a dashboard warning if the driver's door is opened while they are not in Park. But investigators found that the push-button start-stop feature doesn't shut off the engine if the vehicles aren't in Park, increasing the risk of the vehicles rolling away after drivers have exited.

"This function does not protect drivers who intentionally leave the engine running or drivers who do not recognize that the engine continues to run after an attempted shut-off," investigators wrote.

Thus far, the investigation has found 314 complaints, 121 crashes and 30 injuries from the problem. Three drivers reported fractured pelvic bones, while four others needed to be hospitalized with a ruptured bladder, fractured kneecap, or severe leg trauma.

Fiat Chrysler says it is cooperating in the probe. The company changed the shifters in the 2016 Grand Cherokee and 2015 Charger and 300 sedans so they function more like people are used to. But FCA said it did so to increase customer satisfaction and not for safety concerns.

One driver, in Atkinson, New Hampshire, complained that in November of last year, her 2014 Grand Cherokee began traveling in reverse with no driver inside. The SUV crossed a street, crashed into a mailbox and rolled up a driveway. The driver wrote that she tried to get back into the Jeep but was knocked to the ground and it rolled over her legs and injured her. The Jeep eventually stopped after hitting a fence. Drivers are not identified in the NHTSA complaint database.





"The shift knob is a real problem," wrote another driver from Enumclaw, Washington, who reported two unintentional roll-away incidents in a 2015 Grand Cherokee. "I am not a complainer, however this is a major safety issue. It terrifies me to drive this vehicle."

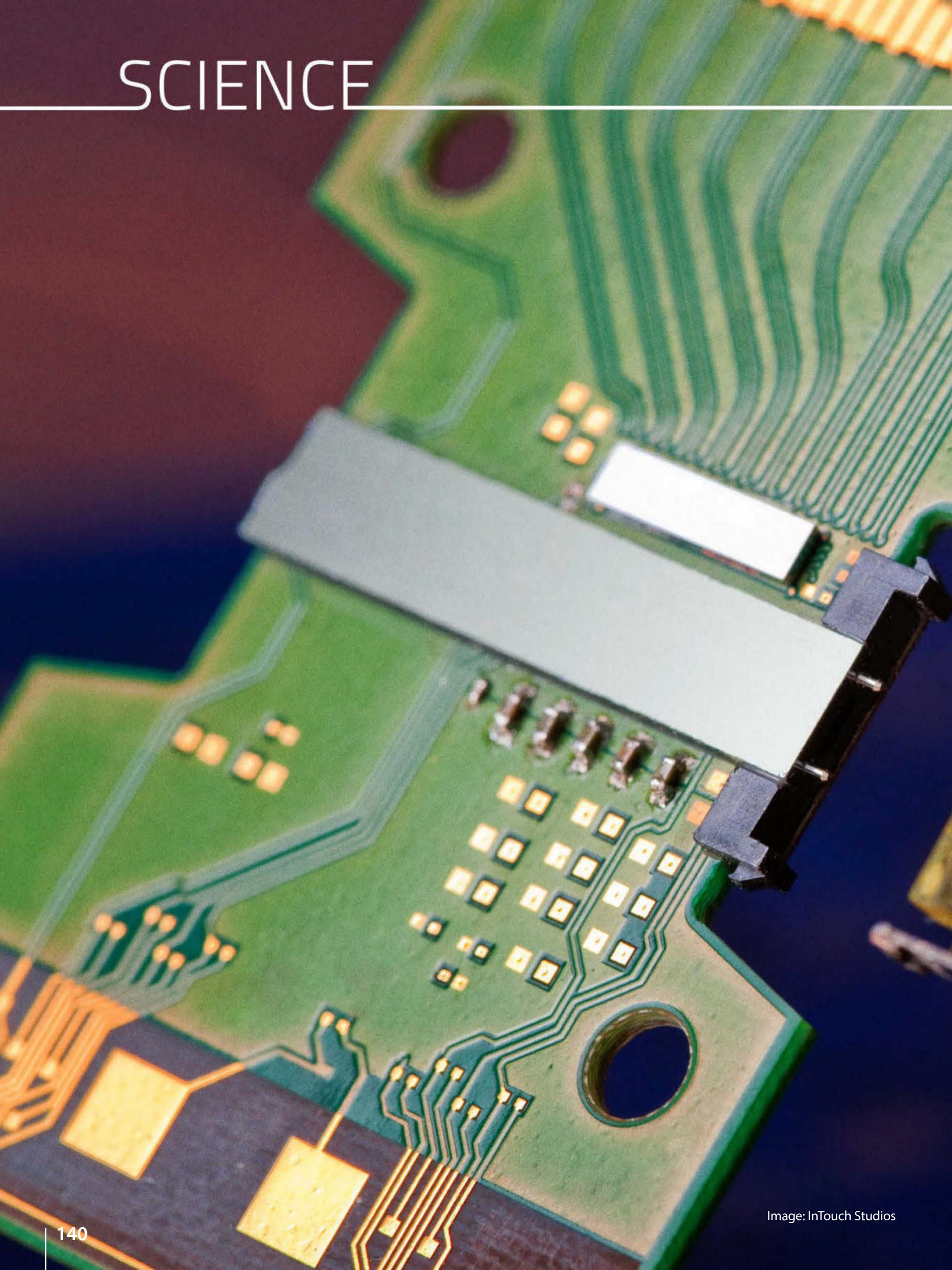
Fiat Chrysler is not alone with the tricky shifters. Fisher says BMW and Mercedes-Benz have similar gearshifts. He said the government has a thin line to walk between stifling innovation and keeping people safe.

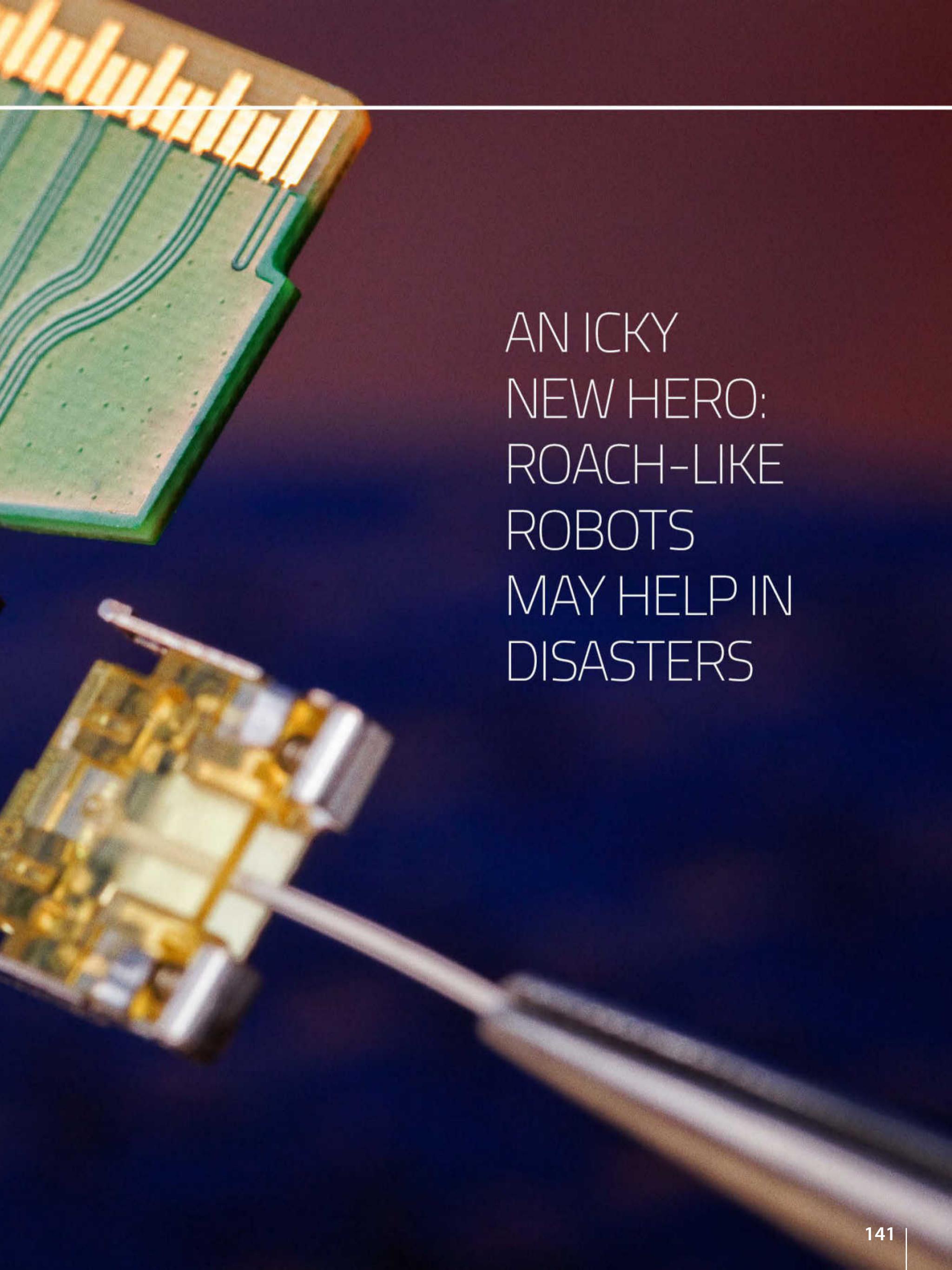
"I think the best thing for consumers isn't that legislation comes," he said. "The best thing is that automakers really do not start adding features that are really confusing to people and cause accidents."



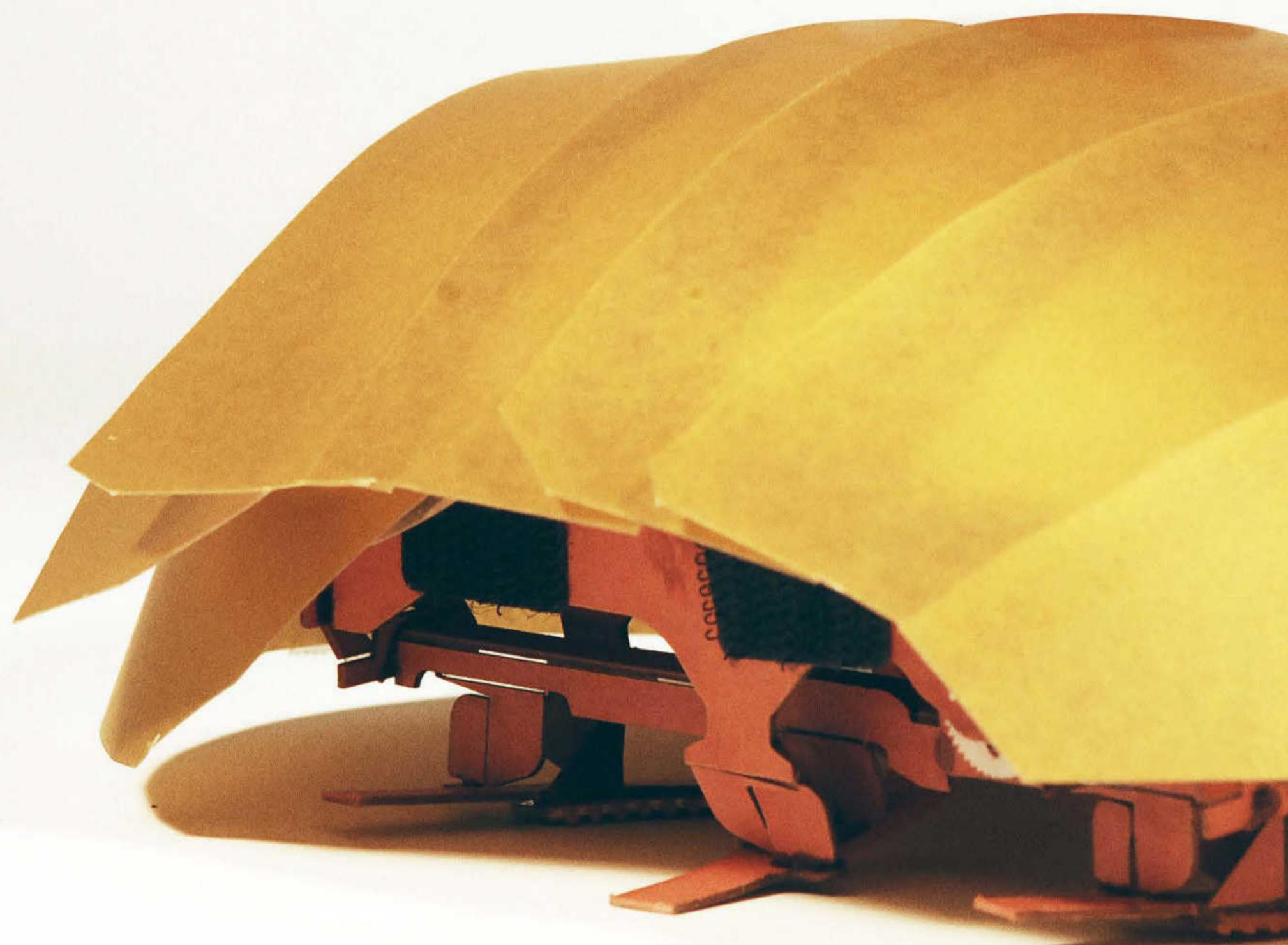


SCIENCE





AN ICKY
NEW HERO:
ROACH-LIKE
ROBOTS
MAY HELP IN
DISASTERS





When buildings collapse in future disasters, the hero helping rescue trapped people may be a robotic cockroach.

Repulsive as they may be, roaches have the remarkable ability to squish their bodies down to one quarter their normal size, yet still scamper at lightning speed. Also, they can withstand 900 times their body weight without being hurt. That's equivalent to a 200-pound man who wouldn't be crushed by 90 tons on his head.

The amazing cockroach inspired scientists to create a mini-robot that can mimic those feats of strength and agility.

The researchers hope swarms of future roach-like robots could be fitted with cameras, microphones and other sensors and then used in earthquakes and other disasters to help search for victims by squeezing through small cracks. The skittering robots could also let rescuers know if the rubble pile is stable.

Cockroaches "seem to be able to go anywhere," said University of California at Berkeley biology professor Robert Full, co-author of a study about the prototype cockroach robot. "I think they're really disgusting and really revolting, but they always tell us something new."

The study was published Monday in the journal *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

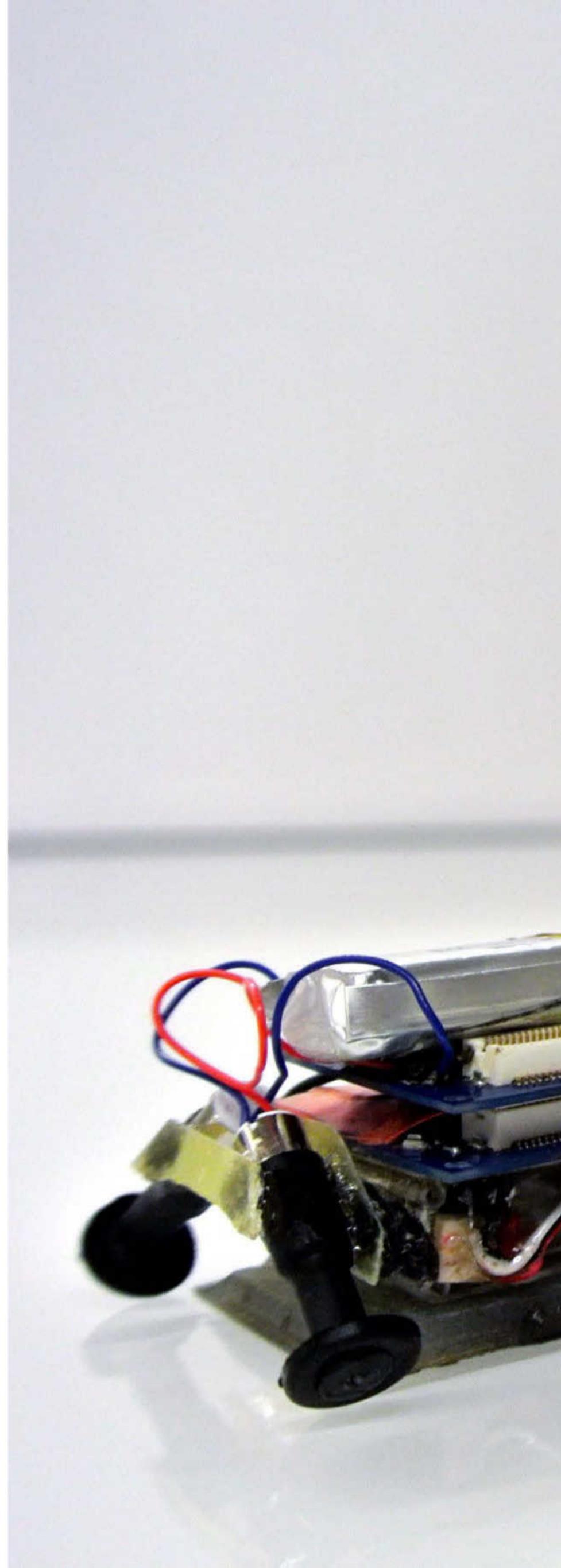
The palm-size prototype, called the Compressible Robot with Articulated Mechanisms, or CRAM, looks more like an armadillo and walks sort of like Charlie Chaplin when it's compressed. It's about 20 times the size of the roach that inspired it. And it's simple and cheap.

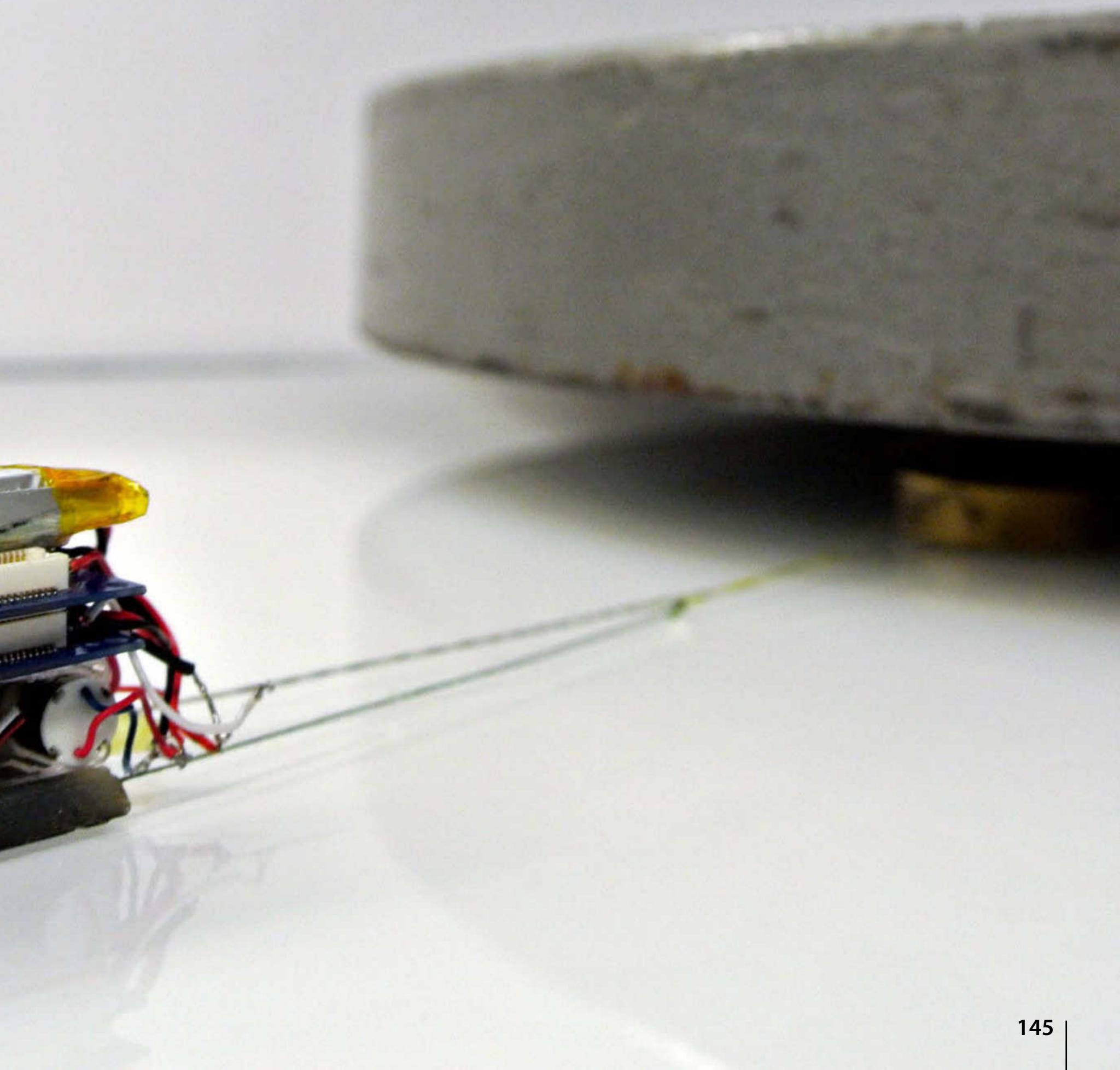
Co-author Kaushik Jayaram, a Harvard robotics researcher, said the most difficult part was the design, but after that he used off-the-shelf electronics and motors, cardboard, polyester and some knowledge of origami. He could probably put one together in about half an hour, he estimated.

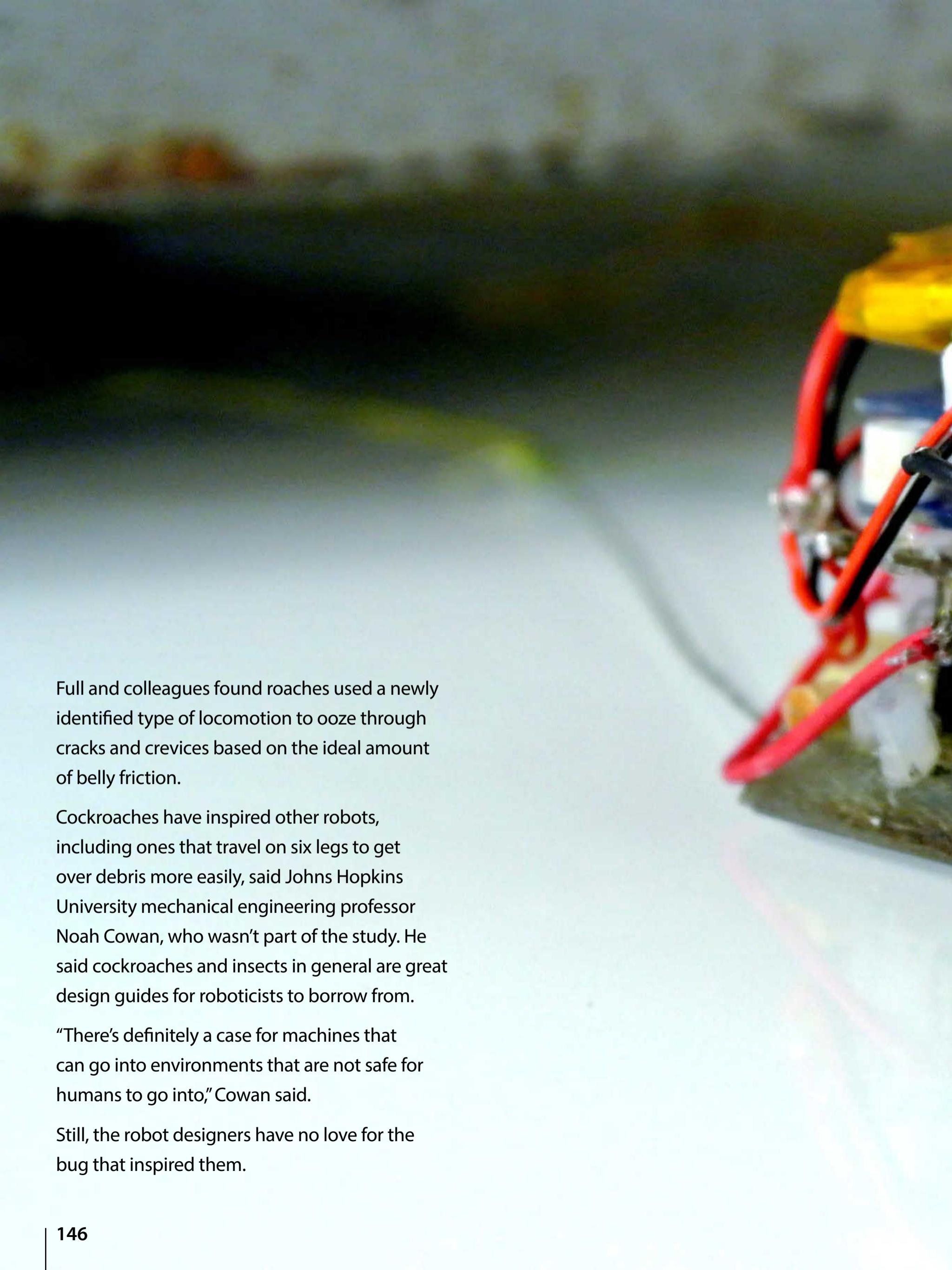
All told, the prototype probably cost less than \$100, Jayaram said. He figures if mass-produced, with sensors and other equipment added on, the robots could eventually cost less than \$10 apiece.

In the past, when engineers looked at trying to create robots that could get into tight places, they thought about shape-changing soft animals like worms, slugs or octopuses, Full said. But the cockroach, which already is studied by roboticists for other abilities, has certain advantages, including crush-resistance and speed.

With nothing in its way, the American cockroach can travel 50 body lengths in a second, which would be the equivalent of a human running more than 140 mph, Full said. When compressed, the cockroach slows to 20 body lengths per second, which is still pretty fast.





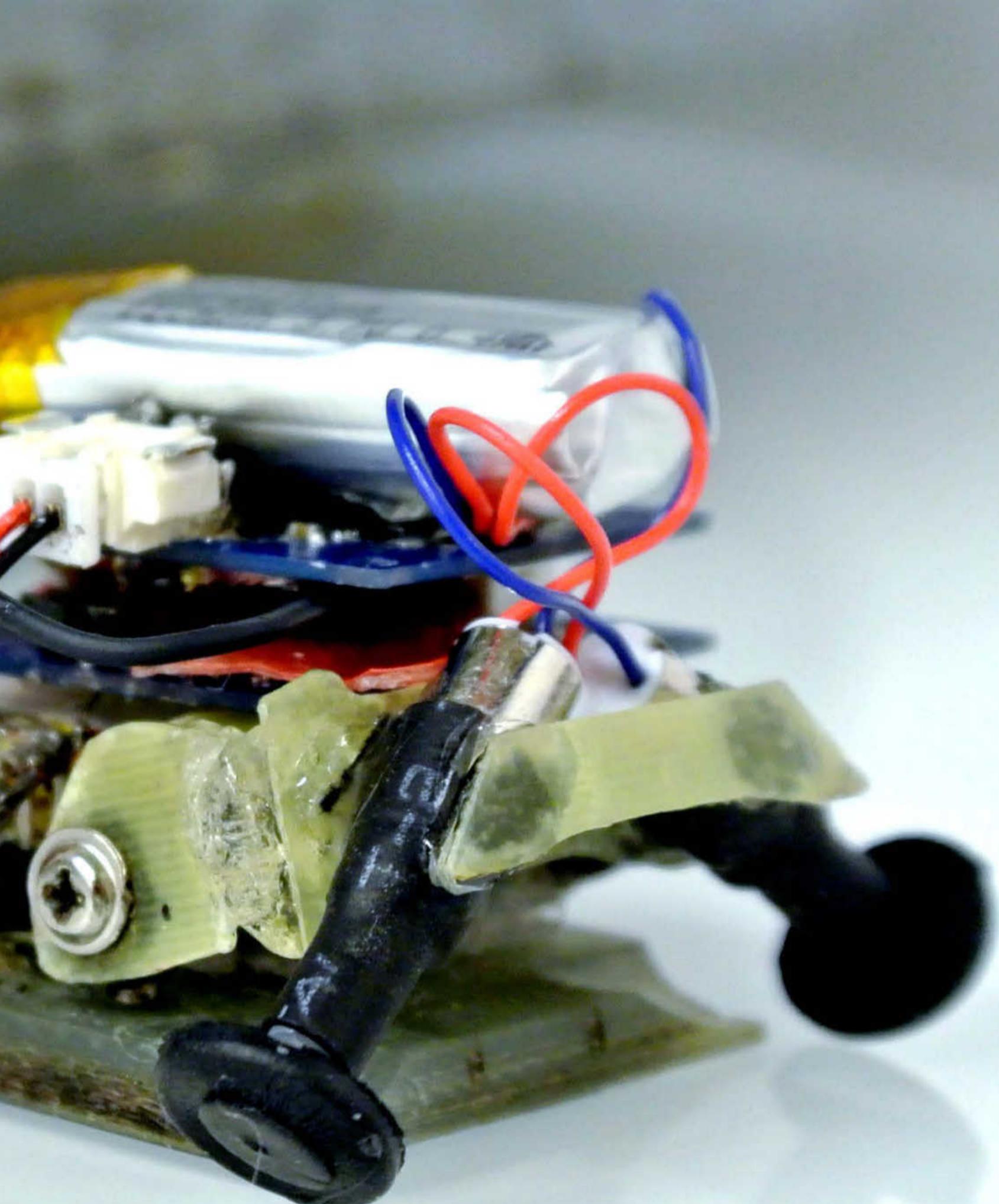


Full and colleagues found roaches used a newly identified type of locomotion to ooze through cracks and crevices based on the ideal amount of belly friction.

Cockroaches have inspired other robots, including ones that travel on six legs to get over debris more easily, said Johns Hopkins University mechanical engineering professor Noah Cowan, who wasn't part of the study. He said cockroaches and insects in general are great design guides for roboticists to borrow from.

"There's definitely a case for machines that can go into environments that are not safe for humans to go into," Cowan said.

Still, the robot designers have no love for the bug that inspired them.



"I'm still creeped out by them," Jayaram said. "I don't want them in my house. I don't want them in my kitchen. That hasn't changed. But we can learn a lot of interesting things from even the most disgusting animals."

Online:

Journal: <http://www.pnas.org>



Health



STUDY:
GUN, DRUG,
CAR DEATHS
LOOM LARGE
IN US
LONGEVITY
GAP





Guns, drugs and cars contribute substantially to the life-expectancy gap between the United States and other developed nations, a study found.

Deaths from old-age ailments sometimes get more attention in longevity research, but deaths from these three causes tend to happen at younger ages, contributing to many decades of life lost, the researchers said.

Data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention show injuries including violence, car crashes and drug poisonings and overdoses are the leading cause of deaths for Americans up to the age of 44.

U.S. death rates from these three injury categories exceed those in 12 other developed countries included in the study: Austria, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom, the researchers said.

Among men, life expectancy in 2012 in those countries was 78.6 years versus 76.4 in the United States. Injury-related deaths accounted for almost half of that difference, the study found.

Among women, life expectancy was similarly higher - 83.4 years versus 81.2 years in the United States. Injury-related deaths accounted for less of the difference - about 20 percent.

Gun deaths were a major factor among men: The U.S. rate was 18.4 such deaths per 100,000 men, versus 1 per 100,000 in the comparison countries.

Among women, drug-related deaths explained most of the injury-related difference: the

U.S. rate was 10 per 100,000 women versus fewer than 2 per 100,000 among women in comparison countries.

The researchers' estimates are based on an analysis of 2012 data from the U.S. government and the World Health Organization. The government study was published Tuesday in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

"If we brought mortality from car crashes, firearm injuries and drug poisonings down to levels that we see in these other countries, we'd gain about a year of life expectancy," said lead author Andrew Fenelon, a sociologist with the CDC's National Center for Health Statistics.

The injury data include accidental and intentional deaths and suicides, and deaths from prescription medications and illicit drugs.

The study bolsters the argument that improving U.S. life expectancy will require addressing premature deaths among younger ages, said Jessica Ho, a Duke University sociologist who has done similar research.

Strengthening U.S. gun laws, making safer cars and addressing the root causes of drug use, including income inequality, are among policies that might help, she said.

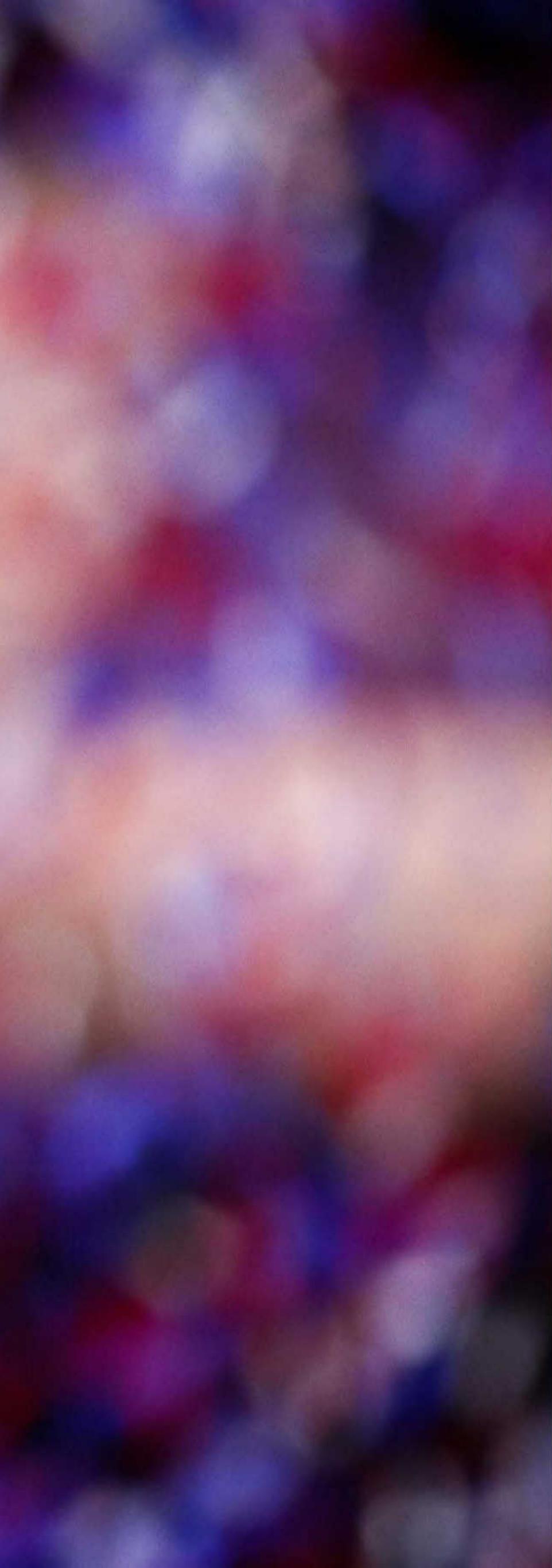
Online:

JAMA: <http://tinyurl.com/z7xmnnxf>

CDC: <http://tinyurl.com/jcvs5mx>







SUPER BOWL GETS 111.9 MILLION VIEWERS, DOWN FROM LAST YEAR

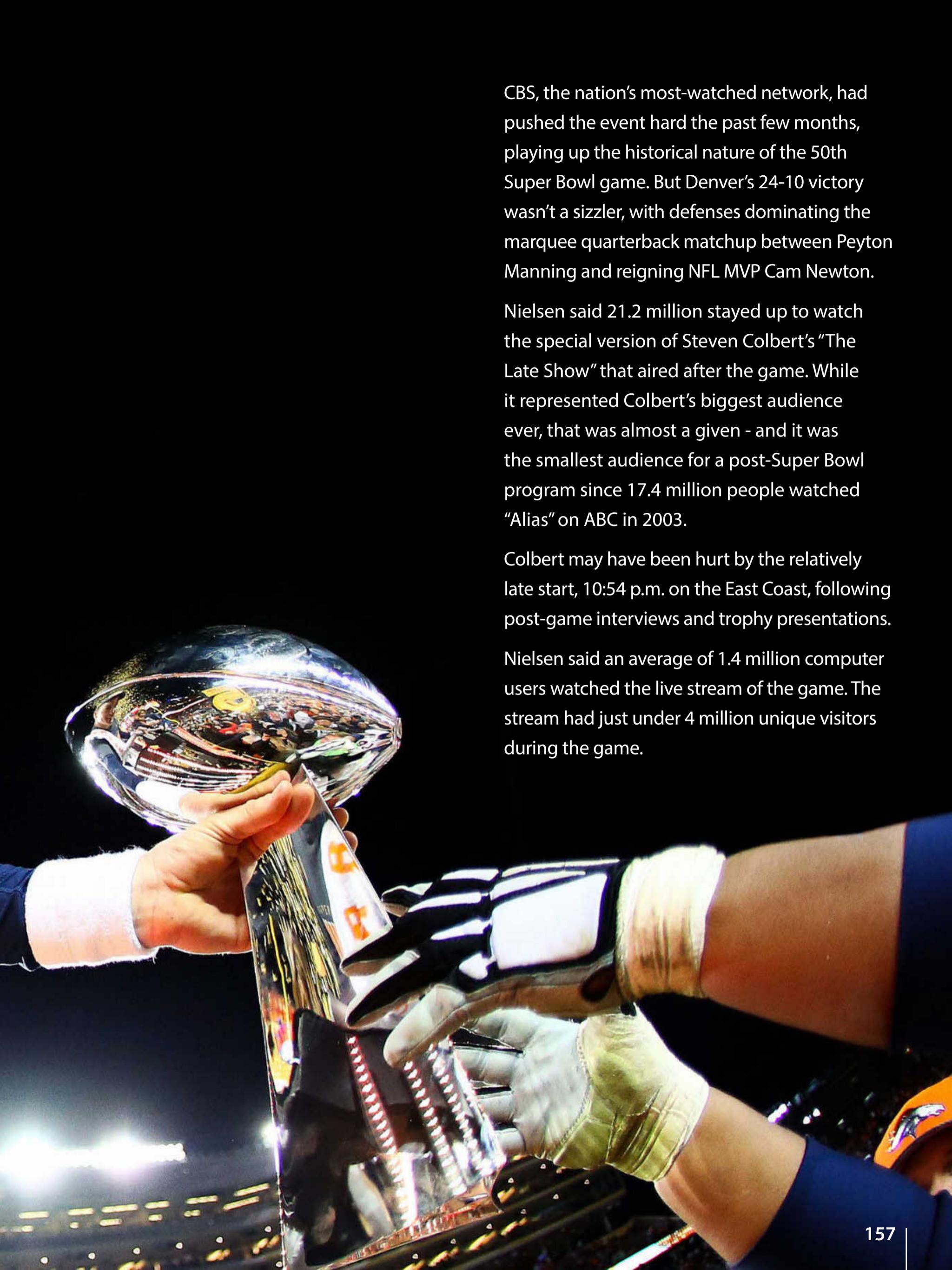
Setting television viewership records with the Super Bowl has become almost routine, but this year's average of 111.9 million viewers for Denver's victory over Carolina is down from the past two years.

That makes Sunday's game the third most-watched event in U.S. television history, the Nielsen company said Monday. Last year's down-to-the-wire contest between New England and Seattle keeps the record with 114.4 million viewers.

The Super Bowl had seemed to know no ceiling in popularity, setting viewership records in six of seven years until this one.



Image: Ronald Martinez



CBS, the nation's most-watched network, had pushed the event hard the past few months, playing up the historical nature of the 50th Super Bowl game. But Denver's 24-10 victory wasn't a sizzler, with defenses dominating the marquee quarterback matchup between Peyton Manning and reigning NFL MVP Cam Newton.

Nielsen said 21.2 million stayed up to watch the special version of Steven Colbert's "The Late Show" that aired after the game. While it represented Colbert's biggest audience ever, that was almost a given - and it was the smallest audience for a post-Super Bowl program since 17.4 million people watched "Alias" on ABC in 2003.

Colbert may have been hurt by the relatively late start, 10:54 p.m. on the East Coast, following post-game interviews and trophy presentations.

Nielsen said an average of 1.4 million computer users watched the live stream of the game. The stream had just under 4 million unique visitors during the game.





TOP 10 SONGS

MY HOUSE

FLO RIDA

ADVENTURE OF A LIFETIME

COLDPLAY

STRESSED OUT

TWENTY ONE PILOTS

LOVE YOURSELF

JUSTIN BIEBER

HELLO

ADELE

VIVA LA VIDA

COLDPLAY

ONE CALL AWAY

CHARLIE PUTH

SORRY

JUSTIN BIEBER

ROSES (FEAT. ROZES)

THE CHAINSMOKERS

PARADISE

COLDPLAY





TOP 10 ALBUMS

A HEAD FULL OF DREAMS

COLDPLAY

25

ADELE

HOST STORIES

COLDPLAY

PURPOSE (DELUXE)

JUSTIN BIEBER

TRAVELLER

CHRIS STAPLETON

NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL MUSIC, VOL. 57

VARIOUS ARTISTS

A RUSH OF BLOOD TO THE HEAD

COLDPLAY

HERE AS IN HEAVEN

ELEVATION WORSHIP

BLURRYFACE

TWENTY ONE PILOTS

NATHANIEL RATELIFF & THE NIGHT SWEATS

NATHANIEL RATELIFF & THE NIGHT SWEATS





TOP 10

MUSICVIDEOS

HISTORY

ONE DIRECTION

HELLO

ADELE

HYMN FOR THE WEEKEND

COLDPLAY

WHEN WE WERE YOUNG

(LIVE AT THE CHURCH STUDIOS)

ADELE

UPTOWN FUNK (FEAT. BRUNO MARS)

MARK RONSON

HANDS TO MYSELF

SELENA GOMEZ

ADVENTURE OF A LIFETIME

COLDPLAY

STRESSED OUT

TWENTY ONE PILOTS

SORRY

JUSTIN BIEBER

WATCH ME (WHIP / NAE NAE)

SILENTÓ





TOP 10 TV SHOWS

FROM THE ASHES OF TRAGEDY
THE PEOPLE V. O.J. SIMPSON: AMERICAN CRIME STORY

ALISTAIR PITT (NO. 103)
THE BLACKLIST, SEASON 3

MILLIONS TO BILLIONS
MADOFF

LIVE TO FIGHT...
SUITS, SEASON 5

THE MEEMAW MATERIALIZATION
THE BIG BANG THEORY, SEASON 9

CATCH ME IF YOU CANCER
MADOFF

REDEMPTIONS
MADOFF

FALLOUT
MADOFF

THINGS WE LOST IN THE FIRE
THE VAMPIRE DIARIES, SEASON 7

BLOOD TIES
DC's LEGENDS OF TOMORROW, SEASON 1

JUSTICE



TOP 10 BOOKS

ME BEFORE YOU

Jojo Moyes

JANUARY

AUDREY CARLAN

FEBRUARY

AUDREY CARLAN

THE CHOICE

NICHOLAS SPARKS

MARCH

AUDREY CARLAN

APRIL

AUDREY CARLAN

BROTHERHOOD IN DEATH

J. D. ROBB

NYPD RED 4

JAMES PATTERSON & MARSHALL KARP

MAY

AUDREY CARLAN

WHEN BREATH BECOMES AIR

PAUL KALANITHI & ABRAHAM VERGHESE

INSIDER Q&A: COMPETING WITH CABLE'S INTERNET OFFERINGS

Chet Kanojia, the founder of startup TV service Aero, has a new offering that could shake up the cable industry again. His new Internet service, Starry, would compete with cable companies in big cities.

Across the country, only one-third of homes have a choice of broadband providers, according to government figures. Starry will use a wireless technology that has long existed, but hasn't been used extensively before. The service is expected to launch this summer, starting in Boston. Kanojia hasn't disclosed prices, though.

Kanojia's previous effort offered local TV channels over the Internet at a lower cost than cable, but broadcasters shut it down with a copyright lawsuit. Kanojia says he doesn't expect legal challenges with Starry.



Image: Brendan McDermid







In an interview with AppleMagazine, Kanojia insists he's not going after the cable industry - but his service would compete directly with cable companies' residential and small-business offerings. Here's what he had to say. Responses have been edited for length and clarity.

Q: Why go up against the cable industry?

A: People have a misconception that we're going against someone. Competition is not part of bringing somebody down. It's about better products, better prices. There's a lack of competition and there's pent-up demand.

Q: Do you expect pushback from cable?

A: It's not clear to me that we are a threat to anybody. Everybody wants more options. That includes the Federal Communications Commission. Tons of other companies are doing this. In rural areas and less-dense areas, there are things called WISPs (wireless Internet service providers). I think there's like a thousand of them, small operations, mom-and-pop stuff. Urban areas should have an option as well.



Q: Why go the wireless route?

A: It's a pretty interesting advantage compared with the wired approach, in terms of cost of construction, time to market. I don't think we would succeed if we were building out the same technology that current providers use. We think our technological approach gives us an advantage. My cost advantage is so dramatic, it's worth my while.

Q: Won't tall buildings in big cities be a problem for wireless offerings?

A: Millimeter waves (which Starry is using) have highly reflective properties. They bounce around between buildings, urban canyons and rooftops very well. You don't need a direct line of sight.

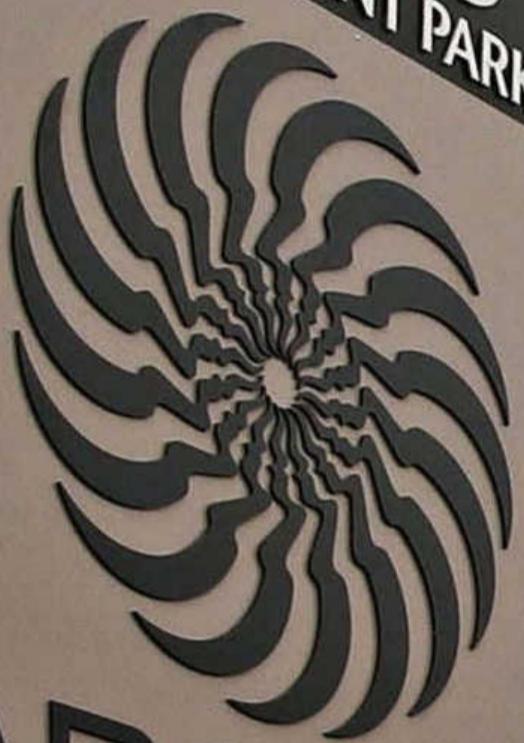
Q: Why aren't you offering video service, too, like cable companies do? Will that hurt you?

A: There is a market shift underway where people are streaming more and more. Second, you take a step back and see what other market segments are there, like small businesses that don't get TV. There are really large pockets you can service effectively and well without worrying about video packages and stuff.

Q: Where in Boston are you starting this?

A: We haven't finalized that. The initial focus is going to be in areas where there is a single provider.

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APOLLO
EDUCATION GROUP



University
of Phoenix



APOLLO EDUCATION TO GO PRIVATE IN \$1.1B DEAL

Apollo Education is being taken private in a \$1.1 billion deal by a consortium led by private investment firm The Vistria Group.

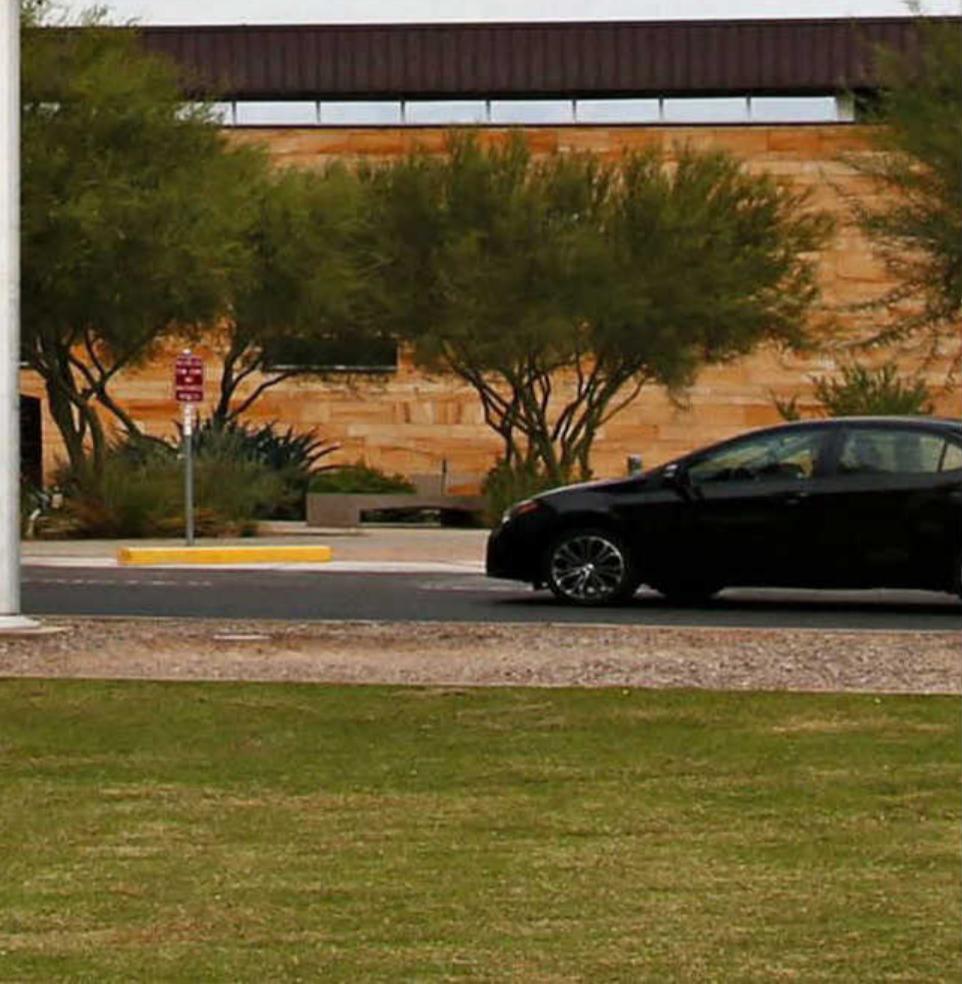
Shares jumped more than 24 percent in trading last Monday.

The announcement comes about a month after the owner of the University of Phoenix and Western International University among others signaled that it may be looking for a buyer.

Apollo Education has had several lackluster quarters as enrollments at for-profit schools fell amid increased government scrutiny of the industry.

Shareholders of Apollo Education Group Inc. will receive \$9.50 per share, a 37 percent premium to the Phoenix-based company's \$6.95 Friday closing price.

Vistria is joined in the buyout by funds affiliated with Apollo Global Management LLC and Najafi Cos.



Tony Miller, chief operating officer of Vistria and a former deputy secretary of the Department of Education, would be Apollo's chairman.

The acquisition, already approved by Apollo's board, is expected to close by August. It still needs approval from the Department of Education, the Higher Learning Commission and state regulatory and programmatic accreditation bodies. The deal also needs approval from a majority of Apollo Education's Class A and Class B shareholders, voting as separate classes. The Class B shareholders have entered an agreement to vote in favor of the buyout.

Apollo Education shares climbed \$1.73, or 24.9 percent, to \$8.68. Its shares are down 66 percent over the past year.



Image: Gary He



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